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[WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.]

THE WAR AND THE PARLIAMENT.

THE debates which took place in the House of Commons, on Thursday and Friday last, have already lost much of their interest. Important as they were, the occupation of Kertch and Yenikale, and of the lines of the Tchernaya, have thrown them into the shade. It is with the sword of the soldier, not with the tongue of the orator or the pen of the diplomatist, that the great business of the world is to be settled. If things go right in the battle-field, it is of little consequence how parties and factions may squabble at home; but if there be gloom in the Camp and want of success by land or by sea in the distant theatres of our operations, the strife of parties in the Legislature at home will grow in bitterness and in importance. So it has ever been, and so it will continue to be until the day—possibly not far distant—when the war shall be brought to a close by the signal discomfiture and humiliation of Russia, and the assertion by the victorious fleets and armies of Great Britain and France of the supremacy of Right over Wrong, and of Civilisation over Barbarism.

But things have "taken a turn," both in the Camp and the Council. In the hour of their triumph it should not be forgotten that the brave soldiers of the Allies never, even in the midst of suffering and privation, indulged in the gloomy anticipations too prevalent in England. They steadily refused to disbelieve in failure—and asked for nothing but for an opportunity to measure their strength against the foe. After long and inevitable delays, the opportunity has presented itself; and the new campaign has been inaugurated, like the old, with a signal victory. From the first landing of the Crimean expedition in the Bay of Kalamita to the date of the latest telegraphic despatch from head-quarters, the Allies, in every combat, provoked or accepted by the enemy, have achieved a brilliant, though in some cases an infructuous, success. Public opinion was

not slow to recognise their bravery; and the enthusiasm of all classes expected achievements still more brilliant, and results still more decisive, whenever the occasion was afforded them. These anticipations have been partially realised; and the operations that are immediately to be, or have already been, attempted, will prove that the public have not expected too much from the heroism of Englishmen and Frenchmen. The seizure of Kertch and Yenikale, and the defeat of the Russians on the lines of the Tchernaya—events which were almost simultaneous—not only reflect the highest glory upon the Allied arms, when considered without reference to ulterior results; but lead irresistibly to the inference that a great and decisive battle will ere long be fought on the outside of Sebastopol. Of the result of that battle the immortal memories of the Alma, of Balaclava, and of Inkerman, forbid us to doubt. The complete investment of the fortress, which is certain to follow a victory achieved by our arms, will seal the fate of Sebastopol, and wrest from Russia something better than the word of the Czar or his signature to a treaty. Such are the events of which, from day to day, the public may expect to hear the commencement and progress, if not the close. In comparison with them, all the parliamentary palaver of London and all the unmeaning courtesies of the Conferences of Vienna are of small account. They are dwarfed by the heroism and obscured by the glare of battle. The cause has been put to the issues of combat, and logic is idle if it cannot add force to the cannon-ball, or give courage to the combatants.

But notwithstanding their relative unimportance, the proceedings which took place in the British Parliament on the motion of Mr. Disraeli, and which will be resumed on one of the many motions awaiting the consideration of the House on its reassembling after the Holidays, cannot be slurred over by those to whom the

character of our public men is dear, and who desire that the institutions of England should be not only the pride of Englishmen, as they have hitherto been, but an example to the world. It is part of the reason for the present satisfaction of the public that, in the great councils of the nation, as well as in the battle-field things have "taken a turn;" and that the Minister, who only ten days ago spoke of renewed negotiations at Vienna as possible, and even desirable, has, under the spur of Opposition, spoken out in a manner consonant with public sentiment, and with the dignity and responsibility of his position. Lord Palmerston, having been compelled to declare himself—though it might have been wished that the compulsion had been unnecessary—has definitively refused the consent of his country to the reopening of illusory and, under the circumstances, dishonourable negotiations. He has come out of the region of vague and cloudy phraseologies into the wholesomer atmosphere of plain speaking. So much the better for the Minister, for the Parliament, and for the cause which the Allies have undertaken. Mystification in France or England is strength to Russia, in her outlying bulwarks in Germany. The bolder the speech of the British Government, the greater the hold it has over the timid and the wavering in Germany or elsewhere. If we think the alliance of Austria to be desirable—the way to obtain it is not to talk "soft sawder" and listen to absurd attempts at compromise, but to speak out at home, and to fight hard in the Crimea. The occupation of Kertch is worth a thousand conferences under the presidency of Count Buol; and one vigorous resolution of the House of Commons is worth a "whole wilderness" of protocols.

We have no desire to dwell upon the composition of the majority which rejected the motion of Mr. Disraeli. Whatever may have been the impulse or the objects of the leader of the Opposition in bringing it forward, its result has been of service; for it led to



THE CRIMEA.—TOWN OF KARASU-BAZAR, BETWEEN KERTCH AND SIMPHEROPOL.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

20s. 10d. for his beer, and 10s. 10d. for his whisky, a Scotchman pays 4s. 8d. for
for his beer, and 19s. 10d. for his whisky.

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN LORD ABERDEEN AND LORD JOHN RUSSELL.

(From the Appendix to the Fourth Report of the Sebastopol Committee).

LETTER FROM LORD JOHN RUSSELL TO LORD ABERDEEN.

Pembroke-lodge, Nov. 17, 1854.

My dear Lord Aberdeen,—I said the other day that I would speak to you upon the subject of the personal arrangements connected with the War Department; I believe, however, I can put the matter more clearly in writing. I will treat the subject in its two points of view:—First, as to the official arrangements of the new department, with a view to the general efficiency of the public service; secondly, as to the immediate requirements of the great war in which we are engaged.

In the first point of view, I have already said that I do not think that a Secretary at War can be maintained together with a Secretary of State for War. Sidney Herbert has, in the fairest and handsomest manner, said nearly the same thing.

I have also told you, however, that I do not think the War estimates ought to be brought forward in the House of Commons by a person of rank and position inferior to a Secretary at War. It is of great importance, when questions relating to the discipline or promotion, favour or punishment, of officers and soldiers, are brought forward in the House of Commons, to have a Privy Councillor or Minister, either in the Cabinet or next in rank to the Cabinet, to satisfy the House of Commons upon points which are determined by military officers sitting at the Horse Guards.

But even supposing that, in time of peace, with a man of the high authority of the Duke of Wellington Commander-in-Chief, an Under Secretary of State might suffice for the House of Commons, such is not the present state of affairs. Every new arrangement will be sharply criticised. There are several men in the House of Commons who are well qualified to lead the opinion of the House on matters of military administration; authority and experience, and high official rank, are therefore required in the organ of the Government on military affairs.

The discussions which have taken place in the public press upon the discipline of the army lead to the same conclusion. A Cabinet Minister, strong in public support, is required to encounter objections to our present modes of trial for military offences, and, if necessary, to improve those modes.

I come, therefore, on this head, to the conclusion that the Secretary of State for the War Department must be in the House of Commons.

From the other point of view the prospect is equally clear.

We are in the midst of a great war. In order to carry on that war with efficiency, either the Prime Minister must be constantly urging, hastening, completing the military preparations, or the Minister of War must be strong enough to control other departments. Every objection of other Ministers, the plea of foreign interests to be attended to, of naval preparations not yet complete, and a thousand others, justifiable in the separate heads of departments, must be forced to yield to the paramount necessity of carrying on the war with efficiency of each service and completeness of means to the end in view.

This great duty may be performed, as I have said, either by the Prime Minister, or a Minister acting in a department. We have examples of both.—Lord Godolphin, in the first way, supported the campaigns of Marlborough; Lord Chatham, in the other, guided the operations of the Seven Years' War.

In the present case, it seems to me that the last example is the most applicable.

If, therefore, the first considerations here presented lead to the conclusion that the Secretary of State for the War Department must be in the House of Commons, the latter considerations point to the necessity of having in that office a man who, from experience of military details, from inherent vigour of mind, and from weight with the House of Commons, can be expected to guide the great operations of war with authority and success.

There is only one person belonging to the Government who combines these advantages.

My conclusion is that, before Parliament meets, Lord Palmerston should be intrusted with the seals of the War Department. With respect to other arrangements, I can feel no doubt that your influence with your colleagues would induce them to acquiesce in such a distribution of offices as you might think most advantageous for the Crown and the country.

I remain, my dear Lord Aberdeen, yours very truly,

J. RUSSELL.

LETTER FROM LORD ABERDEEN TO LORD J. RUSSELL.

Blackheath, Nov. 18, 1854.

My dear Lord John,—The letter which I received from you yesterday, just before the meeting of the Cabinet, contained a proposal so unexpected, and which may have such important consequences, that you will not be surprised if I am unable, at the first moment, to express a decided opinion. But, as any suggestion made by you deserves the best attention, and as you do not call for an immediate answer, I will give the subject the most mature consideration, and will let you know the opinion I may form.—Ever truly yours,

ABERDEEN.

LETTER FROM LORD JOHN RUSSELL TO LORD ABERDEEN.

Council-office, Nov. 18, 1854.

My dear Lord Aberdeen,—I did not expect any immediate answer to my letter of yesterday, and I think it quite right that you should have time to reflect.

I wish, however, that before you decide you should show my letter to the Duke of Newcastle. It was my intention, in writing the letter to avoid throwing any blame upon him; indeed, I think he deserves very great credit for the exertions he has made, but he has not had the authority requisite for so great a sphere, and has not been able to do all that might have been done with larger powers of control.—I remain yours, very truly,

J. RUSSELL.

LETTER FROM LORD ABERDEEN TO LORD J. RUSSELL.

Downing-street, Nov. 21, 1854.

My dear Lord John,—I have shown your letter to the Duke of Newcastle, and also to Sidney Herbert. They both, as might have been expected, strongly urged me to adopt any such arrangement with respect to their offices as should be thought most conducive to the public service. Unquestionably this is the first object; but, on full consideration, I entertain great doubts whether, in the present state of affairs, your proposal would prove advantageous or desirable. It is mainly founded on the assumption that Herbert ought not to move the estimates next session in the House of Commons. Now, I fully agree with you in thinking that the office of Secretary at War, as at present constituted, cannot be maintained together with a Secretary of State for the War Department. It is also perfectly true that Herbert expressed a similar opinion in the House of Commons; but I think he spoke of this as a permanent arrangement, and that he offered to continue his own services as long as they could be useful, especially with reference to the duration of the war.

It is quite clear that an Under Secretary of State could not with any degree of propriety move the estimates; but, looking at the present state of things as temporary, I do not see why a Privy Councillor's office should not in future be constituted, charged with all the financial concerns of the army, and who might very properly move the estimates. If this should not be the case, your proposal would involve the absolute necessity of the Secretary of State for War always being a member of the House of Commons. This, I think, would be objectionable in principle, and might be inconvenient in practice.

I can scarcely imagine that the House of Commons, being assured of the temporary nature of the present arrangement, would insist upon the suppression of the War-office in the first year of the war, bringing greatly-increased labour and responsibility. In the meantime, therefore, and until a final arrangement shall take place, Herbert might continue to move the estimates, and I should think that he would do so with the acceptance of the House, in which, I believe, he is deservedly popular, and likely to find favour.

Your proposal being founded on the supposed impropriety of Herbert moving the estimates, and the consequent necessity of the Secretary of State for War being in the House of Commons, would render the removal of the Duke of Newcastle from his present office unavoidable; but, although you would regard this as the inevitable result of an official arrangement, it is not to be supposed that it would be considered in this light by the public, or indeed by any impartial person. The dislocation of the Government would be so great, and the reason assigned for it apparently so inadequate, that it could only be considered as a mode of substituting one man for another. Although you may be far from entertaining any such desire, the transaction could receive no other interpretation. In justice to the Duke, I do not think that his colleagues, without very strong grounds, would wish to place him in such a position.

Now, with respect to Palmerston, I do not know whether he is aware of the burden you are disposed to lay upon him; but, if not, I should greatly doubt his inclination to undertake it. Palmerston, within a few months, is as old as I am; and, without disparaging his inherent vigour of mind, he possesses no immunity from the effects of age. When I look at the laborious and complicated duties discharged by the Duke of Newcastle and by Herbert, and anticipate others which must shortly be added to them, I fear that I could not honestly advise the Queen to intrust Palmerston, or any other man, with so great a responsibility.

I said in my former letter that your proposal was unexpected by me, because my strong impression had been, from various conversations, that you greatly preferred the nomination of the Duke of Newcastle to the War Department, instead of Palmerston, which had been canvassed at the time in the press and in the House of Commons. But I suppose that I must have been mistaken in this respect. It is useless, however, to enter into the qualifications of different men, for as I do not perceive the immediate necessity for the abolition of

Herbert's office, and the extinction of his functions, I cannot consider the proposed change as imperatively called for.

I do not know that we gain much by a reference to the times of Lord Godolphin or Lord Chatham. Godolphin, as Prime Minister, undoubtedly gave great assistance to the Duke of Marlborough in the War of Succession; and Chatham, as the head of a department, may almost exclusively have originated the war measures of the Government. It would be absurd if I were to pretend to take any active part in the preparation of military details or the direction of military measures, which I can only very humbly assist and promote. But, after all, instead of referring to these old times, perhaps it is more to the purpose to recollect that in our own day the greatest, the most glorious, and by far the most successful war ever carried on by this country, was directed by Lord Castlereagh and Lord Bathurst, under the superintendence of a Minister who was certainly not very warlike in his character, although he lived to see his threatened march to Paris carried into effect. During the last years of this great struggle the War Minister was in the House of Lords, while Palmerston, as Secretary at War, although not in the Cabinet, moved the estimates in the House of Commons.—Ever, my dear Lord John, sincerely yours,

ABERDEEN.

LETTER FROM LORD J. RUSSELL TO LORD ABERDEEN.

Chesham-place, Nov. 23, 1854.

My dear Lord Aberdeen,—I have just received your answer to my letter of the 17th. I have not hitherto spoken to Palmerston on the subject, but on his return I shall communicate to him our correspondence, and consult with him upon it.—I remain, yours truly,

J. RUSSELL.

LETTER FROM LORD J. RUSSELL TO LORD ABERDEEN.

Pembroke Lodge, Nov. 28, 1854.

My dear Lord Aberdeen,—As Palmerston's return is delayed, I will take the opportunity of answering your letter of the 21st instant, which I received on the 23rd.

You begin by saying, that my proposal is mainly founded on the assumption that Herbert ought not to move the estimates next session in the House of Commons. This is a mistake: my proposal was founded on a combined consideration of the official arrangements for the new department, with a view to the general efficiency of the public service, and the immediate requirements of the great war in which we are engaged.

It is obvious that the last of these two objects is the greatest, and that the adjustment of official arrangements may and should be made subordinate to the immediate requirements of the war.

In respect to the first head, I am happy to see there is no irreconcilable difference between us. You agree with me that the office of Secretary at War, as at present constituted, cannot be maintained together with a Secretary of State for the War Department. You also agree with me that an Under Secretary of State could not, with any propriety, move the estimates.

You only differ with me in the opinion I expressed that the change ought to be made in the estimates of next year. I had thought that Herbert might hold the office of Paymaster—such as I held it from 1830 to 1834, and such as Macaulay held it from 1846 to 1847—and thus be connected with the War Department without moving the estimates.

Had you asked my opinion concerning the distribution of offices, this is the suggestion I should have made.

You, looking upon the present state of things as temporary, think that Herbert might continue to move the estimates, as Secretary at War, and that he would do so with the acceptance of the House, in which he is deservedly popular.

Although I am opinion that the House of Commons would expect, after six or seven months' deliberation, a final arrangement of the War Department, yet the difference between us is not so great that I could not yield to your wish and the decision of the Cabinet upon this part of the subject.

I will only say, therefore, that I see no objection, in principle or in practice, to a rule that the Secretary of State for the War Department should, like the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Secretary at War, be always a member of the House of Commons.

I come to the second part of the question.

Here you meet me in *limine* by saying that the transaction would be considered only as a mode of substituting one man for another, and that, in justice to the Duke of Newcastle, you do not think that his colleagues, without very strong grounds, would wish to place him in such position.

Now, I had understood that your Administration was founded on the principle of doing what was best for the public service, without regard to the self-love, or even the acquired position, of individuals. The Duke of Newcastle would, I think, be the last man to wish for an exception to this rule in his favour.

Your next objection is to Lord Palmerston's age; but when I see the vigour of his mind and body I cannot attach much weight to this argument.

You say next that it was your strong impression, from various conversations, that at the time of the separation of the War Department I greatly preferred the nomination of the Duke of Newcastle to that of Lord Palmerston. You are mistaken in this respect. But it is true my opinion fluctuated very much, and it was only determined by the strong wish which I understood had been expressed by the Duke of Newcastle to complete in the War Department the preparations he had so well begun. I thought it due to him to presume in favour of his efficiency.

I come, therefore—having cleared the ground of all these obstructions—to the real question—"What are the requirements of the great war in which we are engaged?"

Setting aside all historical references, both on your part and mine, I think it is clear, either that the Prime Minister must be himself the active and moving spirit of the whole machine, or the Minister of War must have delegated authority to control other departments.

Neither is the case under the present arrangement. I will give you an instance but too pregnant with warning.

Early in October I wrote to the Duke of Newcastle on the subject of transferring the 97th Regiment, then at the Piræus, to the Crimea. He informed me, in answer, that he had wished to do so, and that he had also wished to send between 2000 and 3000 men, the draught of various regiments, to the Crimea.

Now, why was he not able to carry his intentions into effect? Because he could not remove the obstacles put in his way by other departments; and because the Prime Minister did not at once overcome those obstacles.

At a much later time the 97th was moved, and it is only to-day that I see, by a telegraphic despatch from Lord Stratford, dated on the 8th instant, that the *Orinoco* (which conveys that regiment) had left Constantinople for the Crimea.

But in the meantime Lord Raglan had reported that he wished he had been able to place in the position of Balaklava, on the 26th October, a more considerable force; and also that, on the 5th of November, the Heights of Inkerman were defended by no more than 8000 British Infantry. What can be done by a single British regiment was seen on 25th of October, when the 93rd alone saved the position of Balaklava by their firmness and gallantry. Had 5000 more men been at Lord Raglan's disposal on the 25th of October, and the 5th of November, how much more fruitful, though not more glorious, might have been those memorable days.

The Cabinet has, it is true, in its recent meetings, done much to repair omission; but a Cabinet is a cumbersome and unwieldy instrument for carrying on war; it can furnish suggestions or make a decision upon a measure submitted to it, but it cannot administer.

What you want, therefore, I must repeat, is a Minister of War of vigour and authority. As the welfare of the empire and the success of our present conflict are concerned, I have no scruple in saying so.

Keep up, if you think right, as a temporary arrangement, a Secretary at War; make it clear that it is temporary; that is to say, only to last till more complete consolidation can take place; but let Parliament and the country be assured that you have placed the conduct of the war in the hands of the fittest man who can be found for that duty.

I remain, my dear Lord Aberdeen, yours, very truly,

J. RUSSELL.

LETTER FROM LORD ABERDEEN TO LORD J. RUSSELL.

Downing-street, Nov. 20, 1854.

My dear Lord John,—There are two or three points in your letter, received yesterday, to which I think it as well to advert without further delay, in order that, before you see Palmerston, the whole subject may be placed in a condition to be fully understood.

I am glad that it is no longer necessary to enter into any consideration at present of Mr. Herbert's position. I agree with you in thinking that, in consequence of the creation of a Secretary of State for the War Department, the office of Secretary at War must be modified; but I am still of opinion that a Privy Councillor's office may be constituted, by the occupant of which the estimates should be moved, and who should control the whole expenditure and financial concerns of the army. Regarding Herbert's present situation as temporary, I need say nothing further respecting it; but I must altogether demur to your declaration, that you see no objection, in principle or in practice, to a rule that the Secretary of State for the War Department should, like the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Secretary at War, be always a member of the House of Commons. Such opinion, if adopted, I think, would manifestly be at variance with the public interest. It is probable that it might very often be desirable to appoint a military man for the office of Secretary of State for the War Department, and it is equally probable that such a man might be found in the House of Lords. Officers who, by long service and merit, have received the honour of a peerage, might be the persons of all others whom it would be the most important to select for this office,

and it is difficult to conceive why a seat in the House of Lords should operate as a disqualification.

I think that the office ought to stand upon the same footing as that of the First Lord of the Admiralty, who may be either a peer or a commoner, as the public interest may require.

You complain that the Duke of Newcastle has not a sufficient control over the departments with which he is in contact, and that he does not possess a delegated authority sufficient to enable him to perform his duties satisfactorily. I do not exactly know what is meant by a delegated authority, but I apprehend that he possesses all the authority with which he, or any other person, could properly be invested.

The instances you adduce of this want of control are wholly inapplicable, and fail to establish the fact. You say that you wrote to the Duke in October, and recommended him to send the 97th Regiment to the Crimea, and that he replied it was his wish to have done so, as well as to send 2000 troops then ready for embarkation. You conclude, therefore, that he did not do it because he could not remove the obstacles put in his way by other departments, and because the Prime Minister did not at once overcome those obstacles. Now, allow me to say, that before a Prime Minister can remove obstacles he must be informed of their existence; and if it was imagined that he possessed any such power, it might easily have been put to the test by calling upon him to exercise it.

In this case, however, it is yet easy to say what the Prime Minister or any one else could have done. The Duke of Newcastle wished to send the 97th Regiment from the Piræus to the Crimea, and proposed to Clarendon to do so. Clarendon protested against it, and said that the tranquillity of Greece depended upon the regiment remaining at Athens. The Duke, I think, very properly, at the time, acquiesced, and subsequently sent a weak regiment to replace the 97th at Greece.

The obstacle to sending the 2000 men arose from Lord Raglan himself. When the Duke informed Lord Raglan that he had this number of recruits to send him, Lord Raglan replied that those last sent were so young and unformed that they fell victims to disease, and were swept away "like flies." He preferred, therefore, to wait. I do not know what a Prime Minister could have done in such a case; but I must submit that in all this there is no evidence of any want of authority on the part of the Duke.

After all, I think your letter plainly reduces the question to the simple issue of a personal preference, and the substitution of one man for another.

In answer to my suggestion that some consideration was due to the Duke on the part of his colleagues, you say that you understood the Administration was founded on the principle of doing what was best for the public service, without regard to the self-love, or even the acquired position, of individuals. Undoubtedly this was the case; and I fully agree in thinking that the Duke of Newcastle would be the last man to wish for any exception to this rule in his favour.

But I must observe that, at the formation of the Government, no such office as the War Department was contemplated; and when, subsequently, the Colonial-office was divided, no objection whatever was made to the choice of the War Department by the Duke; nor, as far as I am aware, up to this moment, to his management of the office.

Now I think you will admit that, although another person might, perhaps, have been preferred on the first constitution of an office, it is a very difficult thing to displace a man who has discharged its duties ably and honourably, merely in the belief that another might be found still more efficient. Undoubtedly the public service must be the first object; but, in the absence of any proved defect or alleged incapacity, I can see no sufficient reason for such a change—which, indeed, I think is forbidden by a sense of justice and good faith.

You say that I made an objection to Palmerston's age, but this is not quite correct. As my acquaintance with Palmerston commenced very many years ago, I rejoice as much as any one to see the vigour of his mind and body; but when I mentioned his age it had reference to the notion of intrusting him with the duties now discharged by the Duke of Newcastle and by Herbert. It would be a delusion to suppose that any man, old or young, could attempt such a task with advantage to the public. At the formation of the Government I proposed to Palmerston to take the Admiralty, but he preferred the Home-office; and, as he told me himself that the Foreign-office had become too much for him, I am sure that he would never think of undertaking the business of the two offices in question.

On the whole, then, believing that any change like that proposed would be of doubtful advantage to the public; feeling very strongly that it would be an act of unfairness and injustice towards a colleague; and, thinking also that all such changes, unless absolutely necessary, only tend to weaken a Government; I must repeat that I could not honestly recommend it to the Queen.—I am, my dear Lord John, very truly yours,

ABERDEEN.

LETTER FROM LORD J. RUSSELL TO LORD ABERDEEN.

Pembroke Lodge, Dec. 3, 1854.

My dear Lord Aberdeen,—I have not seen Lord Palmerston, nor heard from him; but, after your last letter, I have no hesitation in saying I revert to my original opinion, and must propose to the Cabinet that the office of Minister of War should absorb that of Secretary of War; and that the office should, for the present at least, be held by a member of the House of Commons.—I remain, yours truly,

J. RUSSELL.

THE NEW CIVIL SERVICE SUPERANNUATION FUND.—A bill has been prepared, of which the following is a correct scale, of the New Civil Service Superannuation Fund:—20-60ths after ten years' service; 1-60th for each additional year's service. Contributions for salaries under £100 per annum, 1 per cent; above £100 per annum, 2½ per cent. After twenty years payment of superannuation fund no further payment to be made; all men to retire on reaching sixty-five years of age; if a married man die in harness, his widow is to receive one year's pay, provided he has been in the service twenty years.

THE SARDINIAN CONTINGENT IN THE CRIMEA.—Upwards of 10,000 have landed. They are, to all appearance, a splendid body of men, and have every appearance of having come from a military State. They bring their own ambulances, forage-carts, commissariat officers, and all other military equipments; they fetch their own rations, which are supplied to them by us, and altogether they have a martial and soldierlike bearing which promises very fair to be of use. Their cavalry are neat, light men, mounted on good and strong horses. Their infantry are composed of strong and serviceable-looking men, and show an amount of discipline highly satisfactory; but, above all, the most picturesque in dress, and manner are their riflemen—they are dressed in green, with a kind of Swiss hat similar in shape to an English yachting hat, and ornamented with a large bunch of green feathers. It is placed on the head in a most jaunty style. Their arms are Minié rifles with 800 yards' range, and with sword bayonets; they are said to be clever shots. They march at a fearful pace, amounting almost to a trot, and look very hardy; they all upon landing march away, and are camped in different places. They are cheered most lustily by our men, who seem to have a pleasure in welcoming them as brothers in arms to the Crimea and its sufferings; this is responded to by both officers and men most cordially.—*Letter from the Camp, May 18.*

NO-POPEY RIOTS.—A serious disturbance occurred at Vigevano, Piedmont, on the 20th ult., occasioned by a procession in honour of the Immaculate Conception, which was received with disapprobation by a large portion of the population. To groans and hisses succeeded missiles of the softer kind; whereupon the members of the procession, who, it seems, had been informed of the intended demonstration, drew heavy bludgeons from under their hooded robes, and set upon the assailants. The latter entrenched themselves in the Café Gioberti, but were dislodged, and all the furniture of the coffee-house was destroyed. In the meantime a party of soldiers arrived, some arrests were made, and order restored. In the evening the anti-processionists attempted to revenge themselves by breaking the windows of the Bishop's palace and seminary; but the public force was on the alert, and no further mischief occurred.

MAILS FOR AUSTRALIA.—GENERAL POST-OFFICE, May, 1855.—Arrangements have been made for the conveyance of mails to Australia twice in every month, during the remainder of the present year, by clipper ships from Liverpool, the owners of which have entered into a contract with the Postmaster-General for this service. The mails for Australia will be made up in London on the evening of the following days, viz.:—June 4, June 19, July 4, July 19, August 4, August 20, September 4, September 19, October 4, October 20, November 5, November 19, December 4, December 19. The packets will, in each case leave Liverpool on the succeeding days. All letters and newspapers for New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Van Diemen's Land, and New Zealand, will be forwarded by these packets, unless addressed to be sent by any other opportunity. The packet rates of postage will be chargeable on letters so conveyed, but newspapers will not be liable to any postage. Those postmasters whose instructions direct them to forward letters to Liverpool by cross-post, will send in the same manner letters, &c., posted at their offices, addressed to Australia.

OPENING OF THE FIRST RAILWAY IN SWITZERLAND.

The turning of the first turf of a Railway with a silver spade, the depositing of it in a mahogany wheelbarrow, and wheeling it off "in a most workmanlike manner," is a proceeding which has, from frequent repetition in England, become so familiar as to be regarded but little more than adding one more mesh in the vast net-work of Railways which covers the face of Great Britain.

But in Switzerland! known to us as a succession of mountains, valleys, and lakes—as the ideal dwelling-place of what poets love, and artists would fain imitate—"A Railway in Switzerland!" indignantly exclaims the belle of the travelling carriage, with just as much romance as is possible after a London season, "it would be too cruel." "Make your mind perfectly easy," says Paterfamilias, "the thing is impossible." And, doubtless, many

OPENING OF THE BERNE AND GENEVA RAILWAY.



LAUSANNE, FROM THE ENGLISH CHURCH.

who have ascended Mont Blanc, under the able guidance of Mr. Albert Smith, or who have actually penetrated to Chamouny and Monte Rosa, have their minds so impressed with seas of ice, and mountains of snow, raging torrents, and impassable ravines, that the chances of a railway in such a country, and the Thames in a state of combustion, seem to balance one another in the scales of impossibility. Besides, Swiss peasants and châteaux, and Castles of Chillon, and poetical remembrances, and no less lovely realities, do not agree well (how should they?) with curves and gradients, and navvies and time-tables; nor can the whistle of the locomotive exactly harmonise with the yeodle of the goatherd and the "Ranz des Vaches."

But reality steps in to upset romance. Much of the above is imaginary. There are districts in Switzerland where railways can be made as easily as in England, and where travellers, who have long known that peasants in Arcadian costume no more pipe simplicity's reed, save on the bonbon boxes at Fortnum and Mason's, may find some identity between Swiss châteaux and castles in the air. Even poor William Tell has been much

scoffed at of late; so far, indeed, have sceptics carried conviction that the pipkin which the long-drawn bow displaced from the filial head may soon be ranked with the mythological apples of the ancients.

But, to the Swiss Railway. The scheme of lines now being carried out under the auspices of the Company of the Western Railways of Switzerland purposes to connect Geneva with Berne, by way of Morges, Yverdon, and Morat. The portion of this enterprise of which we have to record the successful completion is from Yverdon to Bussigny—a village twenty miles distant from that town, five miles distant from Morges, and four from Lausanne. The opening was inaugurated on Tuesday, May 1, by a trial trip; the passengers being a deputation from the Conseil d'Etat, the members of the Administrative Body, and about 200 gentlemen interested in the event, inhabitants of Geneva, Lausanne, Yverdon, Morges, &c. The weather was most propitious; and the trip was accomplished to the great satisfaction of all whom it concerned, and to the vast astonishment of crowds of peasants, who, attracted by the novelty of the scene, occupied the bridges and prominent points along the

line. At Yverdon a cold collation was served, a military band was in attendance, toasts were given, and many were the congratulations exchanged on the success which had attended the excursion. The work is expected to be finished to Morges in a few weeks, and the branch to Lausanne in about four months; until which time omnibuses ply from the two towns to Bussigny.

The Company's Engineer-in-Chief is Mr. Charles Vignoles; the Resident Engineer, his son, Mr. Henry Vignoles. The iron-work, station-fittings, and rolling stock, have been supplied by Messrs. Fox, Henderson, and Co. The carriages were made by Messrs. Pawell, Brussels; and the locomotives, in the shops of the Société St. Leonard, Liège.

The traveller arriving at Yverdon, by way of Neuchâtel, will not be sorry to exchange the diligence to Lausanne for the first-class railway carriage, since the high road offers no attraction to those who do not admire dust and tedious hills. But the great interest in this line arises from its connecting the two last lakes which form its termini—Neuchâtel, with its historical associations of Grandson and Charles of Burgundy



BERNE AND GENEVA RAILWAY.—THE POUDERIERE VIADUCT OVER THE VENOGE RIVER.



BERNE AND GENEVA RAILWAY.—STATION AT YVERDUN, ON THE LAKE OF NEUCHÂTEL.

and Geneva, whose natural charms, unsurpassed by any Swiss lake, are assisted by that sanctity of genius which has made it loved and hallowed. We think of Davy, Sismondi, and Rousseau, and the brilliant sceptic whose conscience built an altar to the Power his will would have denied. Then we pass to Coppet, whose fir plantation marks the resting-place of the statesman Neckar, and his more famous daughter. Lausanne calls up the historian of Rome writing his last page, and the great actor with the Roman mind; whilst Vevey, with its old church, reminds us of our own unsettled history and the stern race of which Ludlow and Broughton were the types. Then Moutreu and Clarens, the Rocks of Meillerie and the Castle of Chillon. Light and shade, pathos and sublimity, how they all blend together, suggestive of that mind which has made them famous and linked its immortality with their own.

We have already stated that the line of Railway will probably extend to Geneva from Morges, and to Berne from Yverdon. The former line, as proposed, runs at no great distance from the lake at any one point, and passes near numerous thriving towns and villages.

The projected extension northwards, as originally laid out by Mr. Robert Stephenson, was to follow the natural valley of the country by Soleure to Basle on the Rhine. But, to conform to the wishes of the Canton of Berne, the Company have had new surveys made by their Engineer-in-Chief, Mr. Charles Vignoles, with a view of effecting a junction at Berne with the railway now in execution from that town to Basle. The proposed line skirts the lake of Neuchâtel for some distance, and leaves it for Paverne: from which point two directions have been considered—one, the more practicable, by the beautiful town and lake of Morat, famous for the defeat of the Burgundians; the other, through a mountainous and difficult country by Fribourg. The former has finally been adopted. It should be remembered that from Geneva to Lyons a railway is in course of formation; while the whole line from the latter town to Marseilles has lately been opened; so that the line to Geneva from Morges is alone wanting to form a communication between the interior of the country and Southern France. Basle, on the other hand, will soon be connected to Berne; so that, finally, the rails—touching the latter town at one end and Geneva at the other—will fill up the gap in the iron highway through Europe.

The accompanying Engravings are from sketches by an English resident at Lausanne. They comprise a view of that town; one of Yverdon Station on the opening day; and of a wrought-iron lattice bridge over the river Venoge. This bridge was manufactured by Messrs. Marc and Co., of Blackwall.

THE INFANT CHURCH IN SOUTH AFRICA.

TOWARDS the close of last year (Nov. 22) was laid the corner-stone of an English Episcopal Church, in the village of Riversdale, South Africa, with



ENGLISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH BUILDING AT RIVERSDALE, IN SOUTH AFRICA.

impressive ceremony, by the Rev. W. E. Belson. The proceedings of the day commenced with evening prayer at two o'clock, in the Dutch Re-

formed Church. Notwithstanding that it was harvest time a large congregation assembled. After service a procession was formed to the site of the new Church, chanting the 132nd Psalm. At the entrance to the ground an arch, formed of poles covered with evergreens and flowers, had been erected; whilst the gaiety of the scene was enhanced by a display of flags and other devices. The Civil Commissioner of the division read the usual document, and placed it, together with some coins, in the wall of the building. The stone was then lowered into its position, and the appointed service was continued by the Rev. J. Baker. The 100th and 149th Psalms were sung remarkably well by the choir, which had been previously instructed by Captain Rainier. The meeting was addressed by the clergy and others present; and a collection was made amounting to £21 8s. 7d. After the ceremony sixty of the school children were regaled with tea and cake; and the little festival was kept up until a late hour.

The site of the new edifice—which is the gift of the Dutch Reformed Church—is beautifully situated, being at the top of the principal street. On the north side lie the fine range of the Zwart Berg mountains.

The church, of which we engrave a sketch, is in the Early English style. It will accommodate about 170. The estimated cost of the building is £1300: a further sum will be required for the enclosure of the churchyard, and some of the necessary interior furniture, as font and communion service. Many friends in England have contributed towards the edifice; but, owing to the enormous price of labour and materials, a considerable sum will be required to complete the Church. The congregation are, both by giving money and voluntary labour, helping themselves; and entertain the hope that still more of their brethren at home may testify their sympathy with the Infant Church in South Africa by contributing of their substance to the work they have undertaken. Messrs. Hoare, 37, Fleet-

street, have kindly consented to receive subscriptions, which should be paid to the "Riversdale Church Building Fund."

INDUSTRIAL DEMONSTRATION IN IRELAND.

THE incident here illustrated occurred recently at Mulla, Tullamore, in Ireland, the seat of Thomas Sadlier, Esq. For the last four years Mr. Sadlier has sought to procure employment for his tenantry and others, by the extensive manufacture of peat charcoal into many useful products; more particularly with a view to the preparation of a sanitary agent; and in these endeavours he has been eminently successful. At the commencement of the war the Government required for the military hospitals abroad large quantities of the above material. To execute within a specified time one of these orders, the proprietor had many difficulties to contend with, arising from limited time, inclement weather, and the present difficulty in procuring labourers. In this emergency, however, the country people for several miles round, turned out with their carts and horses, and volunteered their gratuitous services. With this aid the supply was ready in time, and the charcoal was carted in procession from the factories to the railway station—a distance of five miles, amidst the waving of tastily-arranged banners, bearing appropriate devices and mottoes, and with exulting shouts and the joyous sound of music.

In the evening Mr. Sadlier gave a suitable entertainment to the whole party, and dancing and festivity were kept up till an early hour.

This demonstration originated in a twofold object: the remembrance of the fatherly interest and care bestowed on his tenantry by the respected Provost of Trinity College, Dublin, the late Dr. Sadlier; and the anxious hope that the workers might contribute in some degree to the comfort and health of their brothers now serving in the Crimea.



DEMONSTRATION AT MULLA, TULLAMORE.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

VISITATION OF THE ARCHDEACON OF MIDDLESEX.

Archdeacon Sinclair held a visitation of the London Clergy at St. Paul's Church, Covent-garden, on Wednesday morning. There was a very large attendance. Prayers were read by the Rev. Henry Hutton, the Rector, but the usual sermon was dispensed with. The Archdeacon, on taking his seat, proceeded to the delivery of his Charge, which he addressed mainly to the subject of preaching. In inquiring into and exposing some of the errors by which preaching was rendered ineffective, the first general error he mentioned was want of faith in its efficacy. It was with great concern that he heard preaching disparaged, and ironical praise bestowed on short sermons, only for their shortness. Such unseemly jocularities not only discouraged the clergy, but prevented the hearers from profiting by the ministrations of their instructor. The next general error was that of overlooking and omitting certain qualifications which the work of preaching required. Among these were command of language and readiness of expression. That readiness of speech was far from unattainable. It was in early life comparatively an easy acquisition, and at a later period he had known individuals who, by great efforts and assiduous practice, had surmounted the difficulties presented by inexperience and reserved or studious habits. Another qualification for a preacher was such an acquaintance with at least the elements of modern science as an intelligent congregation would expect in their instructor. He did not mean that the Christian preacher was to give instruction from the pulpit in geology, optics, or astronomy; but it was by no means safe for him to be altogether ignorant of physical science, lest he should be betrayed into an exposure detrimental to his pastoral influence. This remark applied still more decidedly to mental science, and, in particular, to the philosophy of morals. The highest authority in ethics was, unquestionably, the Bible; but in the Bible the principles of this science were nowhere reduced to a system. Precepts and maxims sanctioned by Divine authority were to be found in rich profusion throughout its pages, but no theory of morals was expressly taught. A theory was no doubt implied, but study and reflection were indispensable to discover and comprehend it. In this most important process the clergy derived valuable assistance from the writings of Christian philosophers, to whose profound researches they were indebted for systematic treatises on morals, comprehending and elucidating the whole subject. In turning over the popular sermons of the day, however, they were not unfrequently distressed to see that the writer betrayed entire ignorance of such standard works; that his ideas upon morals were confused and ill-assorted; that in some cases his assertions, if strictly and logically carried out, would lead to conclusions he was not aware of, and which, if he knew better, he would be most anxious to disavow; and, upon the whole, that his language implied a theory not in harmony with our best moralists, or with the Sacred Writers, when studied carefully and philosophically. Referring to the composition of sermons, the Archdeacon strongly deprecated haste in preparation, inappropriateness of subjects, and especially artificial and antiquated phraseology. Nothing, he said, could be more vexatious than to hear a young preacher communicating ideas which were assumed to be his own, not in the language of good society in the present day, but in that of Hooker or Jeremy Taylor. No doubt the style of these great writers was excellent. It was admirably adapted to the taste of their contemporaries in the times of Queen Elizabeth or of Charles I.; but it was for that very reason wholly inappropriate to the reign of Queen Victoria; and as it would be preposterous to clothe our persons in the habiliments of the Plantagenet or Tudor period, so it was also inadmissible to clothe our thoughts and sentiments in an equally antiquated garb. Another fatal error in preaching was that of undervaluing the capacity of the people. The understandings of the poor, though not so cultivated, were probably not inferior to that of the preacher himself. They had common sense, and were often quite as shrewd and intelligent as their betters. Though their command of words might be small, they were by no means equally wanting in ideas. Their vulgarities of expression, slight though they might, were often rich in argument and imagination. To address grown persons, therefore, because they were uneducated, in terms adapted to childhood, was a grievous blunder. They saw through the condescension and were indignant. They discovered the insipidity of the preacher and despised it. The Archdeacon thus concluded:—"The clergy of this Archdeaconry occupy a conspicuous position. You have opportunity of addressing the individuals most remarkable for wealth, rank, talent, and influence in the kingdom. A majority of the Legislature are your parishioners. The Church of England, opposed to superstition and bigotry on the one hand, and to infidelity on the other, is the chief safeguard of universal Christendom. The advancement or decline of Christ's Holy Catholic Church depends, under God, upon the branches of our Anglican communion in the several quarters of the world; and in this widely influential communion your position is most important. The effective discharge of your ministerial duties, not of preaching only, but of them all, would, by God's help, Christianise and evangelise the heart and centre of the British Empire." The Archdeacon then dismissed the clergy with the benediction.

PREFERRMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—*Rectories:* The Rev. F. Aston to Toddington, near Moreton-in-the-Marsh; the Rev. R. W. Beauchamp to Wollerton with Wickmere, Norfolk; the Rev. N. B. Curry to Killeckham, diocese of Killaloe; the Rev. E. R. Jodrell to Saxlingham-cum-Sharrington, Norfolk; the Rev. F. C. Scott to St. Martin's, Chichester; the Rev. H. B. Vizard to Spetsbury, Dorsetshire; and the Rev. R. B. Stopper to Coston. *Vicarages:* The Rev. J. Burdett to Killeckham, diocese of Killaloe; the Rev. W. B. Grenside to Melling, near Lancaster; the Rev. J. Kynaston to Billingborough, Lincolnshire; the Rev. A. T. Parker to St. Peter's, Burnley; the Rev. G. F. Williamson to Selston, near Mansfield; the Rev. G. S. Simcocks to Hankerton, near Malmesbury; and the Rev. F. G. Lemann to Langford with Little Faringdon, Berkshire. *Incumbencies:* The Rev. J. Hollins to St. Clement's Church, Bristol; and the Rev. T. B. Sim to Bassenthwaite, near Keswick.

NEW BISHOPRIC FOR BORNEO.—A new see for Borneo has been constructed, and the Rev. Dr. Francis T. M'Dougall, who has been for some time the chief missionary in the island, has been appointed the first Bishop, with the title of "The Bishop of Labuan." The Bishop Designate is a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, and practised for many years as a medical man. He held for a considerable time an important medical appointment in connection with King's College Hospital. When Dr. M'Dougall is consecrated there will be thirty colonial bishoprics in connection with the Established Church of England.

NEW CHURCH IN LAMBETH.—On Wednesday morning the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of St. Andrew's District Church, Lambeth, was performed by Admiral Lord Radstock (in the absence of the Earl of Shaftesbury), in the presence of the Bishop of Sierra Leone; the Rev. J. F. Lingham, M.A., Rector of Lambeth; the Rev. Joseph Brown, M.A., Rector of Christ Church, Southwark; the Rev. J. Gillmore, B.C.L., Incumbent of Trinity Church, Lambeth; the Rev. Messrs. C. Lane, J. A. Johnstone, T. A. Tagg, &c. The new church, which is to be situated in Princes-street, leading out of Stamford-street, will be in the Gothic style of architecture from designs by Mr. Teulon, and will accommodate about 1100 persons, a large proportion of the seats being unappropriated and entirely free. A procession having marched round the parochial boundaries, advanced to the site of the church, where the Rev. Alfred S. Canney, the Incumbent, and the Rev. T. Richardson, the Curate of St. Andrew's, went through the prescribed services. Lord Radstock then laid the foundation-stone of the new building, and briefly addressed the assembly. The Rev. Charlton Lane, the Rural Dean of Lambeth, stated that he was the eldest clergyman in the parish, which had, when he came into it some years ago, only one consecrated church. It had now twelve consecrated churches, independently of others which had been licensed, and he hoped that in the course of twelve months three other new churches would be erected. The Bishop of Sierra Leone—who as Mr. Weeks was Incumbent of St. Thomas's district, Lambeth, until his consecration a few days ago—pronounced the benediction, and the school children as well as a large number of the older members of the congregation were afterwards regaled with a substantial dinner in the school-house attached to St. John's Church, Waterloo-road.

THE JUDGES AND CORPORATION AT ST. PAUL'S.—On Sunday last the ancient ceremony of "churching the judges" was performed at St. Paul's Cathedral. At three o'clock, by direction of the Lord Mayor, the City Marshal proceeded to Serjeants'-inn, Chancery-lane, where the Judges had assembled, and conducted them to the Cathedral, where they were met by the Lord Mayor, Sheriff Sir Charles D. Crosley, Aldermen Farebrother, Sir George Carroll, Sir John Musgrove, Finnis, Wire, and Kennedy; the Dean of St. Paul's, the Hon. and Rev. Canon Villiers, the City Solicitor, and a large number of members of the Court of Common Council. A procession having been formed and moved into the choir, full choral service was performed, prayers being said by the Rev. J. V. Povah, M.A., Rector of St. Ann's, Aldersgate-street; and the lessons by the Rev. William Calvert, M.A., Rector of St. Antholin's, Watling-street. The sermon was preached by the Hon. and Rev. Henry Montague Villiers, M.A., Rector of St. George's, Bloomsbury, who selected for his text the 17th Chapter of St. Paul's Second Epistle to the Corinthians, part of verse 17—"If any man be in Christ he is a new creature"—on which he preached a very eloquent and impressive discourse. The Judges present were Mr. Justice Coleridge, Mr. Justice Cresswell, Mr. Baron Martin, and Mr. Justice Crompton.

The Paris lodging-house keepers are abating their extravagant prices. Two months ago a gentleman, owning property on the Avenue d'Antin, required 150,000fr. for the use of his house during the Exhibition time—he subsequently let it for 50,000fr. Hotel proprietors who, ten days ago, asked 15fr. per day for the modest quarters, are now content with 8fr. for the same accommodation.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

On Monday Portsmouth Dockyard was honoured by a visit from her Majesty, Prince Albert, and the Princess Royal, who came over to pay a visit to the *Cormorant* steam-transport, which had embarked cavalry for the Crimea, and the new royal yacht *Victoria and Albert*. The *Fairy* got into harbour at about a quarter to five, and ran alongside the *Cormorant*, which was lying at the Dockyard Jetty, having embarked in the morning 66 horses and 55 men of the 17th Lancers: 29 of the horses were stabled on the weather-deck, and 37 on the main-deck. Her Majesty remained on the weather-deck a few minutes, inspecting the condition and accommodation made for the horses, and then went below on the main-deck. Here the Royal party remained about five minutes, her Majesty making many inquiries relative to the conveyance of the horses to the East. Having returned on deck, her Majesty and the Royal party put off from the *Cormorant* in the *Fairy's* gig and went on board the new royal yacht, which was lying alongside the Sheers Jetty, making a thorough inspection of this splendid ship in every department, remaining on board about half an hour. The Royal party then returned on board the *Fairy*, and at a quarter to six o'clock went out of harbour back to Osborne.

The recruiting staff of the East India Company has received orders to enlist men for the European regiments and the Horse and Foot Artillery in the Company's service for short periods of two years, and for any term not exceeding one year in addition. The bounty given is the same as is paid to men who enter for longer periods.

There are at present no fewer than one hundred and thirty-seven recruiting parties stationed in the metropolis, in addition to the establishment in Duke-street, Westminster. Of these nineteen belong to Cavalry regiments, one hundred and five to Infantry of the Line (including three belonging to the 60th Rifle Regiment), three to the Rifle Brigade, four to the Royal Artillery, four to the Royal Marines, four to the East India Company, and one to the Royal Sappers and Miners. Allowing each party to consist of a sergeant and two men gives a total strength of 411 men. The estimated number of recruits obtained within the metropolitan districts exceeds 500 weekly.

Several of the Russian officers on parole in Lewes have taken lodgings at Ringmer for the summer months. The men confined in the war prison are taken out every day, but the guard which accompanies them is much stronger than before the recent outbreak, and they are not now allowed to disperse themselves on the downs as formerly, but are kept in a body.

Orders have been issued to have all the available contract transports fitted for the conveyance of cavalry and the remounts (troop horses) for that branch of the service in the Crimea. There are now ready for embarkation 2300 mounted men, in addition to 800 troop horses (remounts), giving a total of 3100 horses, which are expected to proceed to the seat of war before the 20th inst.

The India mail brings news from Bombay to the 1st May. At that date the 4th Dragoons were preparing to embark for the Crimea.

For several weeks past great numbers of convicts have been engaged both on the Portsmouth and Portsea lines of fortifications, erecting earthworks, powder magazines, cutting embrasures and shell recesses; whilst to the right of the Southsea Esplanade, near the Castle, the science of military architecture has been brought to bear upon the erection of a battery of prodigious strength, capable of mounting ten guns of heavy calibre, to command Spithead; and it is said that further fortifications, upon a gigantic scale, are to be forthwith commenced.

Her Majesty's ship *Pique* left San Francisco on the 4th of April. Her destination was kept secret, it being supposed that the captain had sealed orders, received from the Admiral by the mail which had arrived a week previously. It was given out that the *Pique* was merely going to practise her guns outside the bay. She had "provisioned" for six months just before sailing. One conjecture is that she may have proceeded to the north to look out for the Russian frigate *Aurora* (44 guns), which is supposed to have left, or to be about leaving, Petropaulovsk, where she wintered; and another conjecture is that the *Pique* has gone to the Sandwich Islands to join the combined English and French squadrons. From the Sandwich Islands we learn that her Majesty's frigate *Dido* had arrived at Honolulu from Callao, where she had left the Admiral waiting for the arrival of his flag-ship from England.

On Wednesday morning upwards of 3000 stand of Minié and ordinary rifles, with bayonets and sword-bayonets complete, 500 stand of cavalry carbines, and the same number of sabres, and 800 stand of Victoria carbines (the last-named weapon being for the use of the small-armed men of the Royal Artillery, the Land Transport, and the Royal Ambulance Corps), a large number of saddles and cavalry accoutrements and equipments, pouches, trumpets, and bugles, were shipped at the Tower-wharf for conveyance to Woolwich and Sheerness, at which place they will be trans-shipped to vessels about to sail for the Crimea. Several tons (measurement) of new clothing for the service troops and companies of the regiments in the Mediterranean and the Crimea, have been sent out during the last few days.

A DIPLOMATIC PRISONER.—A very young and pleasing Russian officer was lately made prisoner by the English, and by his engaging manners very soon became a great favourite. He is very accomplished, appears to have a good supply of cash, and with great dexterity avails himself of every opportunity to flatter the English; at the same time he cleverly takes every chance of insinuating something or other derogatory to the French; and evidently does all in his power to create a bad feeling between the allies; and with some skill shows what wonders they would do as allies, assuring his auditors that the Russians, to a man, are fond of the English. This gentleman has been sent to England. I have heard of several other prisoners who have acted nearly the same. It has often struck me when in company with this sort of Russian prisoners that they have been sent prisoners intentionally by the Russians, for the purpose of creating a party in their favour in England.—*Letter from Constantinople.*

OPERATIONS OF THE NEW BEER ACT IN LANCASHIRE.—A return has been made in Lancashire, by order of the county magistrates, showing the operation of the new Beer Act in all parts of the county, except the boroughs. The returns include all classes of the population, and not merely the rural, in places not incorporated. Thus Manchester, Liverpool, and Bolton are excluded so far as the borough populations are concerned, but the large populations of places like Bury, Middleton, St. Helens, Prescott, &c., are given. The return shows that during the period through which the new law has been in operation, there was in three of the divisions an increased number of convictions for drunkenness, both on Sundays and during the rest of the week; in five, a decrease in both cases; in seven, a decrease on Sundays, but an increase during the week; in two, an increase on Sundays, and a decrease during the week; and in one an increase on Sundays, the number during the rest of the week being the same as during the corresponding period of 1853-4. Taking the totals as given in the general summary of the return, the result is as follows:—

			Sunday.		Rest of Week.	
			1853-4.	1854-5.	1853-4.	1854-5.
Apprehended and convicted	..	..	150	177	512	557
Summoned and convicted	..	..	527	458	838	974
			<u>677</u>	<u>635</u>	<u>1350</u>	<u>1531</u>

So that, while there was a decrease of 42 convictions for drunkenness on Sundays in favour of the period during which the new Act has been in operation, there was an increase of 181 in the convictions for drunkenness during the rest of the week. During the period of 1853-4 there were 204 publicans and beer-sellers convicted of offences on Sundays, and 153 of offences at other times; but in the same period under the new Act the numbers were 323 and 171. The replies of superintendents in these divisions to questions put by the chief constable nearly all intimate an improvement amongst the working classes as the result of the enactment, though the returns are, many of them, far from bearing out these statements. In Manchester, Ashton-under-Lyne, Bury, South Lonsdale, Lower Blackburn, Bolton, St. Helens, and Warrington, it is admitted that, whilst the licensed houses have been closed, private houses are much resorted to for the purpose of drinking. At Ashton, working men subscribe and have a "brew" during the week, and assemble at a private house on the Sunday to drink the beer thus brewed.

MORMON DOCTRINES ON SLAVERY.—Brigham Young, the High Priest of the Mormons at the Great Salt Lake, has recently issued a manifesto, in which he replies to charges brought against the Mormons by the people of the United States. He states that the charge against the Mormons of being hostile to American slavery is a calumny. His words are:—"The seed of Ham, which is the seed of Cain descending through Ham, will, according to the curse put upon him, serve his brethren, and be a servant of servants to his fellow creatures, until God removes the curse, and no power can hinder it. But the conduct of the whites towards the slaves will, in many cases, send both slave and master to hell. The blacks should be used like servants, and not like brutes; but they must serve. It is their privilege to live so as to enjoy many of the blessings which attend obedience to the first principles of the Gospel, though they are not entitled to the priesthood."

Twelve years ago the coach proprietors between Lancaster and Canine paid £200 a year to the Post-office for the privilege of carrying the mails twice a day between those two places, and at the present time the Post-office pays the railway companies £12,000 a year for performing the same service.

A LETTER from Turin states that the veteran General Pepe is dangerously ill, to the great grief of the Liberal Italian party of all shades. General Pepe is seventy-two years of age.

The *Constitutionnel* has the following curious advertisement:—"A Prince without posterity will adopt a child of an opulent and honourable family. Address, letter franked, to Count Aymar, Rue de la Rochefoucauld, No. 48."

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

It is said that the Queen and his Highness Prince Albert will arrive in Paris on the 16th or 17th of August, as the guests of the Emperor and Empress of the French, and to visit the French Exhibition.

The first object selected by the French Emperor for purchase at the Paris Exhibition was a magnificent sabre, chased in steel, with incrustations in gold, representing on one side the portrait of the Emperor Napoleon I., and the battles of Marengo, Austerlitz, and the Pont d'Arcole, and on the other the portrait of Napoleon III., and the battles of the Alma and of Inkermann.

Wednesday, the 13th of June, has been fixed for the inauguration of the New Metropolitan Cattle-market, Copenhagen-fields. Prince Albert, it is expected, will attend, and the ceremony will be one of state.

In consequence of the 29th of May falling this year in Whitsun week, the anniversary service for the Empress Josephine, which is usually performed on that day in the Church at Rueil, is postponed to Monday next.

The King of Portugal, and his brother, the Duke of Oporto, accompanied by the Duke de Terceira and General de Sarmiento, arrived at Paris on Saturday last.

After being open to the public, under certain regulations, for about five weeks, the apartments occupied by the Emperor and Empress of the French, during the sojourn of their Imperial Majesties at Windsor Castle, were finally closed on Tuesday.

Letters from St. Petersburg state that a meeting will shortly take place between the Czar, Alexander II., and the King of Prussia.

Lord Palmerston, after several applications through the Archbishop of Canterbury and other prelates, has refused to advise the issue of a Queen's Letter for the Church-Building Society.

The King of Denmark has conferred the Grand Cross of the Order of Dannebrog on General Prince Demidoff, an Aide-de-Camp of the Emperor of Russia; and made two other Russian officers Knights of the same Order.

Apartments have been prepared at the Hôtel de Ville for the Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, and Aldermen of the City of London, who have received an invitation from the Prefect of the Seine. The Municipality have also hired a house for the accommodation of some Englishmen of distinction, who have also received invitations.

The Czar Alexander has caused the pamphlet entitled "The Last Hours and Dying Words of the Emperor Nicholas," to be translated into several Oriental languages, and printed at the Government press.

The Hon. Mr. Fillmore, lately President of the United States, arrived in England by the *Atlantic* on Sunday last.

Lord Haddo, son of the Earl of Aberdeen, has returned from Upper Egypt, and will proceed to England by the Peninsular and Oriental steamer *Indus* on the arrival of the India mail at Alexandria.

General Dodge, the Minister of the United States Court at Madrid, has arrived in Paris, with his family.

Two of the brothers of the Bey of Tunis, accompanied by a numerous suite, have arrived in Paris.

The Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland has conferred the honour of Knighthood on Mr. J. Tobin, President of the new Athenaeum at Cork.

Prince Charles Bonaparte has been appointed Director of the Museum of Natural History. He purposes reorganising that fine establishment.

The Parliamentary library of the late Joseph Hume, Esq., was bequeathed by him to the London University College.

M. Favre, an advocate, member of the first Constituent Assembly in France, has just died at Annecy, near Geneva, in his ninety-eighth year.

The Freemasons of Oxford intend to give, on the evening of June 19, a grand ball to commemorate the presence of the Chancellor (the Earl of Derby), who will visit the University for the purpose of laying the foundation-stone of the new Museum.

Baron de Bazancourt, who was sent out by the French Government to the East with the mission of collecting materials for writing the history of the expedition to the Crimea, has returned.

Colonel Rawlinson has arrived in town from Bagdad, having brought to a close the excavations in Assyria and Babylonia which he has been superintending for the last three years on behalf of the Trustees of the British Museum.

Mrs. Daniel Webster resides in a fine house in New York, purchased for her by young men, admirers of her late husband, at a cost of 25,000 dollars.

Dr. Hoffman has been nominated to the office of Assayer of the Mint.

M. Horace Vernet has proceeded to Frohsdorf to paint a portrait of the Count de Chambord, of the size of life. The Count is to be represented on horseback.

Miss Nightingale has been very ill, but is now out of danger.

Prince de Metternich gave a grand fête at Vienna last week, to celebrate the 88th anniversary of his birthday.

Seven hundred pounds have been paid over to the Wellington College from the proceeds of the late amateur dramatic performance at Drury-lane Theatre. £50 has been contributed to the fund for Mr. Angus Beach.

M. Flourens, member of the Paris Academy of Sciences, has been named Professor of the Natural History of Organised Bodies at the Imperial College of France, vacant by the death of M. Duvvernoy.

The notorious Tom Provis, alias "Sir Richard Hugh Smyth, Bart.," whose impudent attempt to grasp the Smyth property at Stapleton and Ashton must be remembered, died on Sunday afternoon, in the infirmary of Dartmoor prison.

M. Michelet is said to be engaged on a work to be called "La Réformation."

The Russian copper money, consisting of copecks, deneschki, and poluschki, are to be recoined, but, instead of bearing the effigy of the Emperor, they will bear the cipher "A. II."

The Lords Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury have approved of the plans of the Royal Dublin Society's proposed Museum of Natural History and have authorised the erection of the building, under the superintendence of the Board of Works.

The Mayors of several provincial towns have opened lists for workmen desirous of procuring passports to Paris (for the purpose of visiting the Universal Exhibition), free of the usual fees.

The French Minister of War has caused it to be communicated to the Academy of Sciences that a gold mine has just been discovered in Algeria.

The Hereford Musical Festival is to take place on Tuesday, the 21st of August, and the three following days.

The New Orleans Cuba Junta has been dissolved, and the vessels belonging to it sold to defray expenses.

In the United Kingdom there are fifteen letters written in the year for every one of the population. In the United States the number is only four.

An extradition treaty has been concluded between the United States and Hanover.

There has been an active movement for tenant-right throughout Ulster for the last ten days, meetings having been held in several of the leading localities.

Three lions from Africa are now being exhibited in Lyons, without being in a cage, or even secured by any chain. The visitors, on entering behind a curtain which is drawn across the booth, suddenly find themselves in the presence of the animals.

The largest iron sailing-vessel ever constructed in the United Kingdom is fast approaching completion on the Queen's Island, Belfast, and will be ready for launching by the end of the summer.

The mouths of the Danube are in no better condition than in former years. Many wrecks have taken place.

The Hanoverian Government is seriously considering the project of cutting a navigable ship canal from Stade up to Harburg, to evade the sandbanks that have formed in the Elbe, and to render Harburg accessible at all times of the tide.

Fish is remarkably plentiful in the Channel Islands. Turbot, weighing between twenty and thirty pounds each, may be had for 5d. and 6d. per lb.

A bill to suppress gambling has passed both Houses of the Californian Legislature.

On Tuesday morning, at nine o'clock, the temperature at Birmingham, as indicated by the thermometer, was two degrees lower than it was on the morning of the 1st January in the present year at the same hour.

The Museum of the Marine at the Louvre has just received from London a large bronze plate surmounted by the Royal and Imperial arms of England and France. On it is engraved, in English and French an inscription to the memory of Lieutenant Bellot, who perished in the Arctic Expedition in search of Sir John Franklin.

[The following appeared only in our Late Edition of last week]:—

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY, MAY 25.

PEACE RESOLUTIONS.

Earl GREY rose to move the following resolutions, viz.:—

That a humble Address be presented to her Majesty, to thank her Majesty for having ordered the protocols of the recent negotiations at Vienna to be laid before us. To inform her Majesty that this House deeply deplores the failure of the attempt to put an end by these negotiations to the calamities of the war in which the country is now engaged; and to express our opinion that the proposals of Russia were such as to afford a fair prospect of concluding a peace by which all the original objects of the war might have been gained, and by which her Majesty and her allies might have obtained all the advantages which can reasonably be demanded from Russia.

The noble Earl introduced his motion by a speech of considerable length, in the course of which he stated that no less than 500,000 lives had been already sacrificed, and about £50,000,000 of our money expended since the war commenced. He contended that we were incurring a grave responsibility in continuing the present hostilities when an opportunity was offered for arriving at an honourable peace by a renewal of negotiations upon the counter propositions submitted by Russia.

The Earl of CLARENDON justified the war, and defended the Government in the conduct and management of it. The noble Earl's speech was similar in tone to those recently made by Lord Palmerston and Lord J. Russell in the House of Commons.

After a prolonged discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

ROYAL COMMISSION.

The Royal assent was then given by commission to the Income-tax, the Customs Duties, the Spirit, &c., Duties, the Militia (Ireland), the Intestacy (Scotland), the Affirmation (Scotland), and several other bills. The Lords Commissioners were the Lord Chancellor, the Duke of Argyll, and the Earl of Harrowby.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY, MAY 25.

THE CRIMEAN MEDALS.

In answer to a question from Mr. Stafford, Mr. F. PEEL said that 2000 medals were in the hands of Hunt and Roskell, for delivering to those soldiers who had returned to this country from the Crimea, and were not present at the ceremony on the 18th instant, and would be forwarded to them by the firm he had mentioned. He might take that opportunity of also informing the House that arrangements had been made to send 8000 medals per fortnight to the Crimea for distribution there; and further, that those soldiers who received medals on the 18th would shortly receive certificates on Hunt and Roskell, in order to obtain their clasps, to which they might be entitled.

THE VIENNA CONFERENCES.

Mr. ROEBUCK said—Sir, there is a report abroad that the Conference at Vienna has been renewed. I wish to ask whether the Government have received any intimation of such a renewal?

Lord PALMERSTON: All I can say is, that no conference has been held since the last reported in the papers; and before any fresh conference is held, the English Minister at Vienna must receive authority from the Government at home to attend it.

Mr. GIBSON thought the noble Lord's answer was not generally understood. The noble Lord stated, some days since, that the Conferences were not finally concluded, but that they had been suspended, Lord Westmoreland retaining full powers. He wished to know whether those powers had been withdrawn.

Lord PALMERSTON replied, that those powers had not been withdrawn. Lord Westmoreland still possessed them.

MR. DISRAELI'S MOTION.—ADJOURNED DEBATE.

Mr. WHITEHEAD resumed the debate, and announced his intention of supporting the resolution of the right hon. gentleman the member for Buckinghamshire. He pointed out at considerable length what he considered inconsistencies between the speeches of Mr. Gladstone and Lord John Russell, contending that no parliament could be unanimous under their joint councils. He contended that hon. members had no alternative but to declare to the Queen that it was their firm purpose, as it was the determination of the country, vigorously to prosecute the war, because the embassy to Vienna had proved futile and abortive. The Government said tauntingly to the Opposition—"We have done all we can. Why don't you tell us what we are to do?" He (Mr. Whitehead) would reply, "Very well, if you will change places with us, so we will" (Hear, hear, and laughter).

Mr. LOWE said he expected that the right hon. gentleman (Mr. Disraeli) would have asked the House to express an opinion on the Conferences, and whether they should be continued or at once put an end to. Feeling that such an opinion ought to be expressed, he could not agree either to the original resolution or the amendment, and had therefore framed an amendment in the following words—"After the words 'regret that,' in Sir F. Baring's amendment, to insert the words 'owing to the refusal of Russia to restrict the strength of the navy in the Black Sea;'" and after "declare that," to insert the words "the means of coming to an agreement on the Third basis of negotiation being by that refusal exhausted."

Mr. CAYLEY expressed a hope that Mr. Disraeli would withdraw his resolution and accept the amendment of Mr. Lowe.

Mr. ROUNDEL PALMER contended that we had already obtained all that was sought for by the war, and it was therefore in the highest degree wrong to continue hostilities for vague and uncertain ends.

Lord STANLEY said he accepted the motion of Mr. Disraeli, not so much as because it passed a well-merited censure upon Ministers, as because it at last gave them a hope of obtaining some more explicit information as to what we were at war for than the country was yet possessed of.

In the course of the discussion that followed, Mr. LAYARD stated his intention of proceeding with the motion of which he had given notice on the earliest possible day after the holidays.

Lord PALMERSTON described the resolution of Mr. Disraeli as a party motion, and declared it as his opinion that Russia's power in the Black Sea should be limited, as otherwise there could be no security against her further encroachments upon the territory of Turkey.

The House having divided upon Mr. Disraeli's resolution, the numbers were—For the resolution, 219; against it, 319; majority in favour of the Government, 100.

A long discussion took place upon the amendments, which resulted in an adjournment. The House adjourned at a quarter past three o'clock.

THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH IN AMERICA.—Those accustomed to the trim and regular lines of wire forming our electric telegraphs, will be astonished by the rough and simple mode in which the American telegraph is constructed. It consists of a single wire dangling between poles or trees—for the line is frequently carried through forests—and costs only £25 per mile. I cannot, however, state that this small cost ensures efficiency; for in the only two cases when I had occasion to use the telegraph in the States, I was told it was not in working order; and I observed the papers were frequently loud in their complaints concerning the non-arrival of their telegraphic despatches. The fault lies with the exceedingly imperfect nature of the insulation, and the frequent displacement of the wire by storms. A gentleman told me that on one occasion, when riding along a road by the side of which the telegraph was carried, his horse's foot became entangled in the wire, which lay in folds on the ground, and inflicted severe wounds on its legs, as the animal plunged in efforts to extricate itself.—*Weld's Vacation Tour in the United States.*

FRANKLIN AND ARISTOCRACY.—It is worthy of remark that, while Franklin was rebuking the love for worldly honours and distinction among his Republican countrymen, he himself bore a coat of arms of which he made habitual use. Numerous letters preserved in the archives of the Royal Society, written by Franklin to various scientific persons in Europe, are sealed with his arms. The crest, "a fish's head in pale, or erased gules, between two sprigs vert," is identical with that of the Lincolnshire Franklins. It further appears that Dr. Franklin was at much pains to search out the history of his immediate ancestors. He traced them back four generations, and was gratified that the name of Franklin was anciently the common designation of families of substance in England. Talking one evening with an American lady, not unknown among the English aristocracy, I happened to say that I wondered at her frequent allusions to the English lords, ladies, and sirs, as I thought such people were held in no greater respect by the Americans than their fellows. Upon which the lady desired the servant to bring a certain "picture" from the library, which was placed in my hands. "There," said she, drawing my attention to the design, which was an emblazoned coat-of-arms, appertaining to her husband's English ancestry, "this is the way we honour aristocracy in America."—*Weld's Tour in the United States.*

THE FRENCH ARMY OF THE CRIMEA.—According to a statement of semi-official character, 182,000 French troops have been sent out to the Crimea and Turkey since the commencement of the war. Of these 120,000 are now available; the remaining number represents, beside the casualties and the deaths by ordinary mortality, the sick and wounded now in hospital.

HEMP, FLAX, AND TALLOW FROM RUSSIA AND PRUSSIA.—A return to the House of Lords has been printed, showing the quantity of hemp, flax, and tallow received into this country from Russia and Prussia, between the 1st January and the 27th April, in the years 1853, 1854, and 1855. The quantity of hemp undressed, in the first four months of 1853, from Russia, was 12,829 cwt., and from Prussia 227 cwt. In the first four months of 1854 there were 1814 from Russia, and 323 from Prussia; and in the first four months of the present year 846, of which 804 cwt. were prize, and from Prussia 42,745. Of flax, from Russia, the quantities in the same years were, respectively 40,301 and 11,710 cwt. in the present year. The quantity of tallow received was 32,404 cwt. from Russia in 1853; in 1854, 27,672; and 13,144 in 1855; and from Prussia, in 1854, the quantity was 3694; and this year (the first four months, as in the several instances), 144,035.

THE SILENT MEMBER.—(No. XIX.)

Most of us are familiar with the scene in Sheridan's comedy of the "Rivals," where the footman, when complained of by his master, consoles himself by violently kicking the page. This sort of thing seems to be in course of imitation by the upper servants of the public, who being convicted of incapacity, are now turning round on the unfortunate underlings, who are being kicked with very little mercy and not much discrimination, on all sides. The mismanagement of the War Department by the incapacities at the head of it, has called forth the energies of Lord Panmure, who, it is said, proposes to reform the establishment over which he presides, by dismissing every one belonging to it, without respect to any qualifications that any individual may possess. This seems such a very unreasoning mode of dealing with a difficulty that, if my authority had been one less likely to be correctly informed than the *Observer*—which lays claim to a sort of demi-official character—I should not have believed that the War Minister would have made such a fearful onslaught on his subordinates as to have discharged them all at once. It is true that they are all "eligible to reappointment;" but it would be better that those who may have performed their duties diligently and faithfully should not find themselves liable to be turned off. It is something like hanging a man for the pleasure of cutting him down again, to deprive a public servant of his functions merely to restore him to his former condition.

Everybody will admit the necessity for reform of the Civil Service, but it seems as if the old error would be committed in this case as in so many others, of beginning the reform at the bottom instead of at the top. If the clerks appointed the heads of departments, it would be a sound principle to commence the war against the present system with an attack on the clerks; but, as the chiefs have the appointment of the underlings, it is on the chiefs that the assault should be made. Purity and efficiency cannot exist permanently in the lower branches of the public service while the upper branches are corrupt and incapable. The most sweeping alterations or improvements amongst the inferior grades will soon lose their effect if the chiefs are to be exempted from the touch of Administrative Reform. "Like master, like man," is found to be a true saying, but the "man" does not impress his own qualities on the "master" by whom he is employed. If, therefore, we would have efficiency in the underlings, we must have efficiency in the superior grades of the Government offices; and it is little better than mockery to make stringent regulations applicable to those youths who seek to enter the public service, unless measures are taken to secure efficiency in the higher ranks. These reflections have occurred to me, as they will have occurred perhaps to many others, after reading the Order in Council prescribing new regulations for those who are candidates for Government employment. Certain examinations are to take place, which will be all very well if the public have full confidence in the examiners. Much, however, is to be left to the heads of departments, in all of whom the public will not have confidence, because those heads are a part of the very system which public opinion has condemned. If there is no appeal against the decisions of these heads of departments, but if they are permitted to exercise an irresponsible authority, a system of favouritism will spring up far more fatal to the hopes of ability and worth than even the practice of promotions by seniority, which, with all its faults, was still incapable of being made an engine for keeping merit back, though doing nothing to help it forward. Routine, which allows all to advance according to some fixed principle, though it be a faulty one, is preferable to a system under which, in violation of every right principle, the undeserving may be promoted above the man of worth.

One of the best means, perhaps, of obtaining a good body of public servants is to treat them with fairness at least, if not with liberality; and, while insisting on a faithful discharge of duty, it is unjust to refuse to listen to a well-grounded complaint.

The members of the Civil Service have for some years been remonstrating against the treatment they experience in having a large sum taken from them every year to provide what is called a Superannuation Fund, but which fund is diverted altogether from its proper purpose, and is applied to the general requirements of the State. Every civil servant has to pay, in addition to his income-tax of seven per cent, a superannuation charge of five per cent—so that twelve pounds are deducted from every hundred he is supposed to receive. This five per cent is nominally taken to provide for the possibility of some future superannuation allowance, but it has been calculated that one per cent would be amply sufficient for the purpose; and, consequently, every civil servant is mulcted of four per cent more than any other class of the community for the expenses of Government. If it is right that the civil servants bear this extra burden, by all means let them bear it, but let the principle be allowed; for it is a piece of dishonesty to take five per cent for a purpose upon which only one per cent is expended, while the balance is otherwise applied. Surely it is little better than obtaining money under false pretences to say to the civil servants of the country, "Your possible claim for superannuation requires a contribution of five per cent from your income," when it is a fact that only one-fifth of the sum is really necessary, and the remaining four-fifths are put into the pockets of the public, whose share in the burden of taxation is to that extent unfairly diminished. The weight has at last become so oppressive, that it is no longer endured with patience, and redress has been sought from two or three successive Chancellors of the Exchequer, who have promised to attend to a claim the justice of which it has been impossible to deny. Notwithstanding the high moral tone adopted by these gentlemen, their promises to rectify a piece of gross unfairness remain to this day unperformed. The subject has, however, been taken up by Mr. Macartney, an independent Member, who gave notice that, if the Government did not do justice to its servants, he would introduce a measure to redeem the country from the imputation of picking the pockets of those whom it employs. This has had its effect, and a bill is said to have been prepared by which the evil complained of will be mitigated, if it is not altogether remedied.

The appointment of Mr. Phinn to the Second Secretaryship of the Admiralty has been cavilled at, on the ground that a naval man is needed to write letters in a style of courtesy which a correspondence with naval officers requires. It used to be the general impression that a blunt straightforward manner was best suited to the nautical taste and character; but if our seamen, or rather our naval officers, are not to be addressed in any but the pink-note-paper mode of correspondence, they must be an altered, if not a greatly improved, class. Mr. Phinn, however, will no doubt throw a sufficient amount of the *suaviter in modo* into his correspondence to make it palatable to those who ought to attach the first importance to the *fortiter in re*. If there should be any difficulty on the subject a "Polite Letter-Writer" might be added to the library at the Admiralty, and thus the only objection raised by cavillers to Mr. Phinn's appointment would be removed.

If the art of polite letter-writing is necessary to an Under Secretary, it must *a fortiori* be indispensable to a Secretary of State, and the lately-published correspondence between the Earl of Aberdeen and Lord John Russell will enable the public to judge how far these statesmen possess the quality of epistolary elegance of style. If the best letter-writer makes the best Minister, neither of the two noblemen would rank very high, if he were to be estimated by the specimens that have recently appeared. Perhaps Lord John Russell meant the bitterest things under the fairest phrasology, but both he and his correspondent have displayed more of the wish than the ability to use language as an instrument for concealing thought. The real meaning of the writers peeps out in many parts of their letters when the words were evidently designed to convey a different sense to the persons to whom the communication is addressed. That Lord

John meant more or less than he said is pretty obvious from the fact that he left Lord Aberdeen's Government because the War Minister ought to be in the House of Commons, and he has joined the Government of Lord Palmerston, whose War Minister is in the House of Lords. What Lord John Russell really wanted was to get rid of the Duke of Newcastle; but, as he was not candid enough to say so in direct terms, he must remain under the imputation of inconsistency, for, by his written letters, it is shown that he quitted one Cabinet on the plea of a certain change being necessary, which change has not been carried out in the Cabinet to which he now belongs. If this is the dilemma into which public men may get themselves by polite letter-writing, it would be better for their reputation if that correspondence were somewhat less distinguished for its politeness than for its plain speaking, for no graces of style will compensate for the absence of honesty and truth.

The *Univers* says that the French caravan of pilgrims has "happily terminated" its excursion to the Holy Land. On the 30th ult. they embarked in good health to return to Europe.

Thirty-one emigrant ships have left Liverpool for all foreign parts during the present month, with an aggregate number of 11,577 passengers on board; of whom 8756 were for the United States.

THE MOUNTGARRETT PEERAGE.—This celebrated "romance in real life" is not yet concluded. The Court of Exchequer has unanimously granted the application of the plaintiff (Mr. P. S. Butler) to proceed with his bill of exceptions in relation to the rejection of evidence on the last trial. The case now goes into a court of error.

FREEHOLDERS' BUILDING SOCIETIES.—A public meeting in celebration of the sixth anniversary of the Freeholders' Building Societies was held at the Royal Hotel, Birmingham, on Monday; Mr. Scholefield, M.P., in the chair. Mr. J. Taylor, in moving a resolution, said that the society numbered close upon 900 members; that the receipts, which during the first year amounted to only £2400, were now between £13,000 and £15,000 per annum; and that since the establishment of the society they had received more than £50,000.

A SUBMARINE RAILWAY.—The *Boulogne Gazette* says:—"There is once more a serious intention of uniting France and England by a submarine railway. The latest project is that of Dr. Payerne, who, with 40 subaqueous boats (of which he is the inventor), 1500 sailors and navvies, 4,340,000 cubic yards of material, and £10,000,000 sterling expenses, would undertake to construct a tunnel, by means of which the Strait that separates the two countries would be crossed in 33 minutes. The position of this tunnel would be, no doubt, nearly parallel with that of the electric telegraph, and contiguous to it, as being the narrowest part of the Channel, as well as that where the depth of water is the least."

ENGLISH GARDENS IN THE CRIMEA.—In about a month's time there will be immense crops of English vegetables growing in the vicinity of the English hospitals in Turkey and in the Crimea, for the use of the sick, as well as large crops of vegetables and grasses in the neighbourhood of Balaklava and Sebastopol. Mr. Page, the seed-merchant, of Southampton, who has been selected by the Government to stock the English possessions in the Crimea with herbage and vegetables, states that the whole of the immense stock of seeds he sent out in the *Medway* will be up in about three weeks after they are planted. The seeds of those vegetables which grow quickest were sent out in the largest quantities.

CANTEENS AT KADIKOI.—The Guards' division have hit upon an excellent plan to save the soldiers' purses—to keep them in camp beyond the reach of temptation from ardent drink, and to provide them with good and wholesome comforts and luxuries. Each of the battalions has established a canteen for the sale of all the articles for which the men would otherwise have to go to Balaklava or to the Kadikoi bazaar. One of the officers of each battalion has undertaken to act as purveyor of stores, which he purchases wholesale, and which a sergeant, established in the canteen, retails to the men, of course at cost price. It is quite astonishing to hear of the quantities of camp luxuries sold at these regimental canteens; and the teetotallers among your readers will be glad to learn that lemonade is one of the chief articles in demand. The ingredients are bought, and the lemonade is made "on the premises." Another article of general consumption is the bread baked by the private bakers at Balaklava, which, it appears, is found vastly preferable to the ration bread imported from Stamboul and Varna. That ration bread is eatable, but not agreeable to eat. It is always stale, and sometimes mouldy; and the soldiers preferring their money in buying a better sort of bread than the Commissariat are able to procure for them.—*Letter from the Camp.*

RUSSIAN REINFORCEMENTS.—On the 15th instant a very large force was observed to be marching along the coast road, to join the army on the heights north of Sebastopol. By reports from some of the ships as many as 50,000 troops were moving in this direction. It is quite evident, from the much greater extent occupied by the encampments, and particularly the increase in the number of the field batteries, that very considerable reinforcements have arrived. It was supposed, when first notice was given of the approach of so large a force, that an attack was contemplated, and instructions were given for the troops guarding the trenches to be constantly on the alert. Some of the divisions in front were also kept under arms for a great part of the night. Nothing unusual, however, occurred. The following day (May 16) several large convoys of corn and forage were seen on the north heights. At one time there could not have been less than 400 country arabas, each drawn by two oxen, on the high ground near the encampment. A little below, and to the west of Star Fort, is a large commissariat depot. In addition to some very large sheds, covered by red-tiled roofs, which have been observed to be storehouses, and a little on one side of them, are two huge heaps of sacks, probably containing corn. They are stacked up in a pyramidal form. To these stacks a line of 140 arabas were conveying similar sacks, and as each cart was relieved of its load, it passed away in another line with equal regularity. A number of men could be noticed busily employed in arranging the sacks, and connecting them with the pyramidal stacks, as fast as they were deposited on the ground. Higher up the hill, and to the east of the Star Fort, another line of arabas moved from the direction of Mackenzie's Farm, and were lost to view as they passed behind a prominence on the brow of the slope. They were bringing forage. In a third place were collected a large number of arabas, drawn up in regular rows, and stationary, and as far as could be judged by the telescope, laden with gabions. Perhaps they might be intended to remain there, and be brought across at night.—*Letter from the Camp.*

The vine disease has already made more havoc in Portugal than it made last year in all the month of June; and it threatens a year of almost next to no wine.

During the year 1854 the sum expended in the United Kingdom in cigars and tobacco, and afterwards "lost in smoke," exceeds £3,000,000 sterling.

Twenty-six hands employed in a gold-mine in Georgia recently procured, in nine working-days, 1650 dollars' worth of gold from surface ore, some of which had been thrown aside for fifteen years.

THE RAMAZAN.

The annual Turkish fast called Ramazan commenced on the evening of the 16th ult. at set of sun. The observances were of the usual kind. The mosques were illuminated with all the skill for which the Orientals are famous, and during all the night the voice of merriment and rejoicing was heard in the lanes of Stamboul. The fast falling as it now does, in the summer months, is most oppressive to the strict observer, who will not touch a drop of water or inhale a whiff of tobacco during the fourteen hours which elapse between the rising and setting of the sun. The observance is doubly onerous at present, as large bodies of Mussulmans are now employed by European Governments and individuals, who insist on continuous labour during the greater part of the day. The men engaged in baking bread and roasting coffee for the Allied armies, and even the workmen employed in the service of the Turkish fleet and army, are obliged to exert themselves during the whole length of a summer's day without rest or refreshment. However, all Mussulmans insist on quitting their toil an hour before sunset, so as to be at home when then the sound of cannon announces the hour of deliverance from their long-borne abstinence.

Our Artist at Constantinople has accompanied his Sketch of the Ramazan with these details:—

Wandering about a few nights ago, in the suburb of Tophana, we entered, with two friends, the inner yard of the mosque, the interior of which we could perceive was brilliantly illuminated. We ascended the steps, and could see very well the interior with the chandeliers, throwing a phosphoric light on a crowd of prostrate faithful; when the son of a Turkish priest looking upon us with a rather indignant expression, made us desist from our curiosity, lest it should be deemed an intrusion. Children were playing in the yard; cake and sugar-plum sellers were trafficking; and this glimpse of every-day street life presented a strange contrast with the devotional scene within the mosque.

The characteristics of the month of Ramazan (the Mohammedan's Lent) are thus described:—

The day is passed, by the rich at least, in sleep, or in total idleness. Every Moslem, with the exception of travellers, children, and invalids, is forbidden to taste food or drink, to smoke or take snuff, from sunrise to sunset; and very tired do they look, squatting on their divan or at the door, without favourite pipe in their mouths, and having no other occupation than counting



THE GRAND REVIEW OF THE FRENCH TROOPS AT CONSTANTINOPLE, BY THE SULTAN.

their beads. As the Turkish month is lunar, the Ramazan runs through every season in the course of thirty-three years; and, when it occurs in summer, the abouring classes suffer extremely from exhaustion and thirst. "I have seen the boatmen," says Mr. Turner, "lean on their oars almost fainting; but I never saw—never met with any one who professed to have seen—an instance in which they yielded to the temptation of violating the fast." The moment of sunset is, of course, eagerly looked for: it is announced by the firing of cannon. It might be imagined that the first act of the hungry and thirsty would be to eat and drink; but numbers of Turks may be seen, their pipes ready filled, and the fire to light them in their hands, awaiting the welcome signal, every other gratification being postponed for that of inhaling the fragrant weed. The night is passed in devotional forms and revelry. All the mosques are open, and all the coffee-houses: the latter are crowded with Turks, smoking, drinking coffee, and listening to singers and story-tellers. The minarets are illuminated, and the streets are crowded with the faithful.

REVIEW OF THE FRENCH ARMY OF RESERVE.

The Review of the French Army of Reserve, at Maslak, by the Sultan (of which our Artist has here given a Sketch) previous to its embarkation for the Crimea, took place on the 13th of May. So far as the troops were concerned, the spectacle was a splendid one. The various regiments were in first-rate condition, and performed evolutions common on such occasions with admirable precision. The Sultan seemed very much pleased with the appearance and movements of the two regiments of Carabiniers. The only drawback on the affair was the want of a good attendance of spectators. Nobody in Stamboul or Pera knew that the review was to take place; and our official people, instead of making as much noise about it as possible, contrived to keep it almost a secret. The result was that not only were there hardly any Turks present, but that only a few of even of the 500 or 600 French, English, and Sardinian

officers at present in Constantinople were there. Considering how good an opportunity the review at Maslak offered of impressing the Greek and Turkish population with a proper sense of the power of the Allies, it seems strange that no advantage should have been taken of it.

The Cavalry Division, under the command of General d'Allonville, left Constantinople for Kamiesch on the 15th; and the Imperial Guard, under General Regnault St. Jean d'Angely, on the 16th. We shall, no doubt, hear of their doings in the Crimea before long.

Now that the French army has left Constantinople, another army of reserve is about to be formed in the neighbourhood of that city. The last accounts from there say that General Vivian was about to organise in the Plain of Unkar-Skelessi a camp of reserve of 25,000 men, composed of the Anglo-Turkish Legion now in course of formation, and of Turkish regulars. The superior English officers belonging to the Camp would have their head-quarters in the Russian place of Buyukdere.



THE RAMAZAN, IN THE MOSQUE OF TOPHANA.



GRAND REVIEW OF THE FRENCH TROOPS AT CONSTANTINOPLE, BY THE SULTAN.

LITERATURE.

MOREDUN: a Tale of the Twelve Hundred and Ten. By W. S. Low and Son.

When a certain Mr. Ireland—once a notorious, but now an almost forgotten personage—fabricated a play, and attempted to palm it upon the public as a lost and recovered work of Shakspeare, he contrived to throw our literary world, for a short time, into no small commotion. By a cunningly-devised story, supported by manuscripts and other articles of evidence, ingeniously concocted, he found means to gain believers and to enlist partisans. Numbers on both sides joined in the fray; and, so long as the work itself remained unknown, the controversy respecting its genuineness was hotly carried on. At length "Vortigern" was acted, and there was an end of the matter. The play itself proved, in every line, that it was an impudent forgery, and sank at once into insignificance and oblivion.

We have now another literary forgery of a similar kind, which must have a similar fate. Some six or eight months ago a Frenchman, named Cabany, brought forward a story of the discovery of an unknown romance of Sir Walter Scott, the manuscript of which had fallen into his possession, and which he was about to give to the world. The story was improbable enough; but, as the members of Scott's family and his friends who would have been able to judge decidedly of its truth, were by this time dead, it could not be positively contradicted. Several of Scott's surviving friends showed that it was most unlikely that Scott should have written such a work or should have disposed of it in the manner related by this M. Cabany. But it is well known that truth itself is often improbable—that "le vrai n'est pas toujours le vraisemblable," nobody could deny that the story might have been true, however strange it appeared. To the arguments of those who impugned its truth on the score of improbability, it was not difficult to find at least plausible answers; and the skirmishing that has been going on in the columns of the London and Paris prints has excited curiosity about the book, and served the purpose of an advertisement. But its publication puts an end to the controversy. There is no use in saying a word more about the truth or falsehood of the story told by its self-styled discoverer, when every page of the book itself proves beyond dispute that it is a barefaced and contemptible counterfeit. It is quite unnecessary, therefore, to take any notice of the long controversial introduction prefixed to the book, beyond saying that, though signed by the Frenchman, Cabany, it is evidently the production of some Scotchman—probably the writer of the book; and that the fraud is aggravated by the insolent and abusive style employed in its justification.

As to the book itself, it is beneath criticism. There are many clever copies which have something of the spirit of the original; but this "Moredun" has not a grain of merit—even considered as an imitation. From the first page to the last it does not show the faintest spark of the genius of Walter Scott. Several plays ascribed to Shakspeare have given rise to controversies which last to this day—"Titus Andronicus," for instance, and "Pericles." Few have ventured to contend that these pieces are entirely from the pen of Shakspeare; but many maintain that they have passages of power and beauty which undeniably show the master's hand, and this partial authorship is explained from the circumstance of his having been the manager of a theatre. But in "Vortigern" there were no such indications; and, therefore, it had at once and unanimously set down as altogether spurious. Had "Moredun," however, feeble, as a whole, contained here and there a trait of beauty or strength, or humour, akin to the genius of Scott, such things might have afforded grounds for ascribing to him the authorship of the whole; for, in his case, there could have been no divided authorship. It might have been said that the book was an early work, when his powers were not matured, or a late work, when his mind was in decay. But, on either supposition, it would have had some mark of individuality—something characteristic of the author. Even in the weakest of Scott's known works—even in "Count Robert of Paris," or "Castle Dangerous"—we still have a great mind before us, although it be a mind in ruins. But in "Moredun" there is nothing of the kind. We find a bald and mechanical mimicry of some of the most palpable peculiarities of his manner—peculiarities which have been copied by other imitators with far greater dexterity and success—and these are the only things that remind us of Scott for a single moment. We do not insist on anachronisms, or deviations from historical accuracy; these were often committed by Scott himself, though redeemed by his surpassing excellences. But here there is no redeeming point. The story of "Moredun" is commonplace, and void of interest; the characters are mere lay-figures, not (like Scott's) men and women of flesh and blood; cold abstractions, not living and breathing individuals whom we learn to know and sympathise with, as if they were realities. Scott's style, though careless, is always fresh and vigorous, and often rises to the highest eloquence. The style of this book is uniformly flat and vapid, and often affected and turgid. The attempts at humour are vulgar, and without a vestige of Scott's geniality.

The publication of "Moredun," in short, has given it its *quietus*. No evidence, however ingeniously got up, can stand against the intrinsic evidence of utter worthlessness.

WINE, ITS USE, AND TAXATION. An Inquiry into the Operation of the Wine Duties on Consumption and Revenue. By Sir EMERSON TENNENT. Madden.

In France and England, where the climate, owing to the influence of the Western Ocean, and particularly to the great body of water called the Gulf Stream, that is continually flowing from the Torrid Zone, is much warmer than the other parts of Europe equally far to the north, the grape ripens in the open air tolerably well in favourable seasons much to the north of 48°. In England it sometimes comes to perfection in 52°; but, as the rule, no wine is made from grapes north of 48°; and this parallel of latitude marks the line beyond which the grape cannot be successfully and extensively cultivated. Every country, however, every degree of latitude, is peculiarly favourable to the production of some particular commodities. Nearly every zone produces those which are essential to the continuance of man on the earth; while the products that contribute in a less degree to his welfare, but are convenient, agreeable, and useful—like tea, wine, coffee, silk, cotton, and gold—are found or obtained only in some limited and comparatively narrow districts. All these, however, being equally acceptable to man in almost all conditions and all places, the production of them in limited districts is as plain a command issued by nature for the inhabitants of these districts to exchange these various products of one another, as the effects of cold and rain constitute a command to use shelter and clothing. That these districts are inhabited by different nations, and have different manners, customs, and government, does not alter the command. The want—be it of wine, of gold for money, or of clothing—is common, and can only be gratified permanently and continually by mutual exchange. Violence and rapacity, which are sometimes had recourse to, put an end to production, and gratify the want of a few only for the moment. Mutual exchange gratifies it perpetually, and extends the want—it grows by what it feeds on—

A bounteous plenty is the robe,

and—

Trade is the golden girdle of the globe.

No individual, like Robinson Crusoe, is now to be found, compelled to make for himself every thing he needs. Each one produces only some small part of what he and what others use—be it a book, cloth, corn, government—and buys the bulk of everything he consumes from others. This takes place—as men flee to shelter and clothing in winter, and take food when they are hungry—in obedience to the commands of nature, and these commands are not limited by political boundaries, though given by means of climates, zones, and degrees of latitude. The mutual exchange essential to the welfare of all the inhabitants of London, who could no more live without having recourse to it than they can fly, and equally essential to all the inhabitants of our country, is also essential to the welfare of the inhabitants of different countries. What is everywhere good for individuals must be good for nations. Acting, however, in ignorance of this great natural ordinance, political communities, under the influence of superstition or national enmity, have laid heavy restrictions or prohibitions on their trade with one another, and without knowing what they were doing have impeded division of labour, the progress of general opulence, welfare, and civilisation. For a long period England, very ignorant and very jealous of neighbours now her fast friends, was conspicuous for her restrictive, mischievous, and prohibitory legislation directed against them. Trade with remote countries was encouraged, and hence it came to pass that England had and has more trade with the yet comparatively few inhabitants of the United States, possessing a climate similar to that of Europe, than with the whole of Europe. With it her trade as a whole is probably less than the trade of the inhabitants of England, one with another. These two facts show that political prohibitions and restrictions are exclusively the causes why trade with our neighbours is so small. An important part of our old restrictions and prohibitions was a heavy duty on wine the produce

almost exclusively of Europe to the south of 48 deg. It has been as high as 13s. 8d. per gallon on French wines; but is now 5s. 9½d. per gallon on all wines, except those made at the Cape of Good Hope. Originally imposed on a luxury from political motives—a much heavier duty than at present was formerly imposed on tea—the Wine-duties are now continued as a source of revenue, though wine may be said to be, quite as much as tea, a necessary of life. Considering how much the price of tea, of coffee, and of the commoner sorts of wine has fallen within a century, our present duty on wine is quite sufficient to impede consumption, and effectually to stop the growth of our trade with the wine-producing countries of Europe, which produce little else than wine for exportation. This great social consequence of our taxation on wine, is not at all considered by Sir Emerson Tennent, nor does his book, though the word stands in its title, treat of the use of wine. It is strictly limited to the immediate effects of the Wine-duties on our revenue, and so strictly limited, that it does not include in his examination any, much less all, the events contemporaneous with the changes on the Wine-duties, such as the reduction on the duties on other commodities, and a general reduction in price, which have prevented the reduction in Wine-duties from leading to a largely increased consumption. We therefore consider the principal conclusion of his book, which all his remarks tend to support—viz., that the present duties on wine, of about 5s. per gallon, are the very best to promote consumption and secure a large revenue—to be deduced from insufficient data. It is exclusively drawn from a restricted view of the Wine-duties, without taking any other classes of facts into consideration; is, consequently erroneous; and, like all errors, full of mischief. It would be useless now, however, when such a strain exists on the national resources, to controvert it at length, and advocate a reduction of Wine-duties; and we must, therefore, content ourselves with expressing our dissent from the author's elaborate conclusion, and our conviction that a great reduction of the Wine-duties, whenever the Legislature has the opportunity and the courage to carry it into effect, will be a great social, moral, and pecuniary benefit.

The tendency of Sir Emerson Tennent's mind—from occupying an official position, and from long association with the Protectionist party—gives a bias to his work. On the Committee which sat to inquire into the effect of the Wine-duties, he endeavoured to elicit information unfavourable to reducing them. He is the champion of high duties. But after the reader is put on his guard against Sir Emerson's tendencies, and his erroneous conclusions, he may study the book with great advantage. The mere fiscal history of our Wine-duties was never so well written. The numerous and successive changes made in them in modern times, and the effects of these changes, were never so well described. To our statistical literature the book is a valuable addition, and it is full of useful information. It supplies evidence of the general decrease in the consumption of alcoholic liquors in Europe in proportion to the population consequent on the increased consumption of coffee, tea, and other non-alcoholic drinks. The upper classes throughout Europe or France, as well as in Britain and Ireland, or Holland and Belgium, and probably in Germany, drink much less wine than formerly. In France, the consumption of wine by the lower classes is increased. With abundant evidence of increasing sobriety, there is really very little occasion for the exertion of Temperance and Total Abstinence Associations, though they are likely to claim the credit of an improvement which does not originate with them. The localities favourable to particular wines, and the narrow spots, rigidly bounded, on which alone some of the most valuable sorts will grow, are by the author amusingly brought under notice. The same species of grape produce Hock on the Rhine, Bucellas in Portugal, and Sercial in Madeira. The Madeira grape produces at the Cape of Good Hope a wine vapid, earthy, and almost worthless. In only one valley of Madeira can Malmsey be produced, and only on one farm of the Cape is Constantia made. The famous Johannisberg, or Rhine wine, is made exclusively from the grapes that grow on the south side of a single hill at Steinberg, from the vines of single gardens. A single farm of about eighty acres is the sole spot that will produce the costly Clos-vougeot (a famous French wine); and a spot still less, only six acres and a half, is the only place where Romanée Cinto can be made. Mont Rache, another famous wine of the Côte d'Or is the produce of a space almost as limited, and yet it is distinguished into three kinds of unequal goodness; and no art can make vineyards, divided only by a ditch, and apparently perfectly alike in soil and situation, produce the same wine. In general, however, the fascinating part of the subject, which has engaged the attention of many agreeable writers, is not so well treated of by Sir Emerson Tennent as the fiscal and statistical parts. In this latter and limited sense the work is the most complete, while it is much condensed, that has ever been published on the wine trade.

THE ERUPTION OF VESUVIUS.

The present eruption of Vesuvius is similar to the one of 1786, which, in Auldjo's "Sketches of Vesuvius," is described as the thirty-first eruption, and the stream of lava is taking the same course. It began in November, 1785, when several small craters broke out on the north side of the great cone facing the ridge of Somma. In January, 1786, the eruption greatly increased, and the lava, issuing from a rent near the small craters, flowed along the Atrio del Cavallo into the Fossa Vetrana; and at the commencement of the ravine, between the Canteroni (the ridge on which stands the Hermitage) and the ridge of Somma, it fell over a perpendicular precipice sixty feet in height, forming a cascade of molten lava—glowing and red as iron from the furnace. Proceeding down the Fossa, or ravine, it reached the little Chapel of the Madonna della Vetrana, forced a passage through it, leaving the side walls standing, and serving as sides or channel to the glowing torrent. After running several hundred yards down the Fossa, it ceased to flow, and the inhabitants of the country lower down were relieved from all fear of injury. The present stream is also taking the course of two of the immense streams of lava which poured down the mountain in the great eruption of 1631, and desolated a vast extent of country. Those two streams destroyed part of the villages of Mossa, St. Sebastian, Madonna dell'Aro, and St. Jorio; and these same villages—with their beautiful gardens, vineyards, and splendid villas—are, by the last accounts, all threatened with destruction.

A letter from Naples, dated May the 19th, says:—"Vesuvius has now nearly done its bidding, and seems disposed to rest from its labours. I speak of course comparatively, for it is still active—still forms a magnificent spectacle from the capital. The cascade of fire—one of the modern wonders of the world—is now a blackened mass; and, contrasted with its late brilliant appearance, strikes one as if it had been arrested by some fell disease which had converted it into this stifened, discoloured corpse. All fear of any further damage is now, I think, removed, and has been for several days. There was a suspension of the flow of lava for about eighteen hours. The surface of the streams, in this time, became hardened, and whatever new material issues from the crater flows over the old lava, and has scarcely strength to reach so low down as the elder stream. It rather has a tendency to flow sideways at the apex of principal branches, and if it does so may destroy some chestnut trees or vineyards. It is consolatory to be able to state that not one life has been lost, though many have been in danger, from mere foolishness, from walking over ground where no other person has been, or peering into fissures vomiting fire and smoke, for no other earthly reason than to be able to say that they had done it. The foreign journals, I see, have killed many unfortunates prematurely; and even here, at Naples, common report has put many *hors de combat*, but beyond two or three casualties which have been sent to the hospitals, I have heard of nothing more. The reason is, undoubtedly, that this eruption has sent forth lava rather than shot up vast rocks. As to the material loss which the landholders on the line of the streams have suffered, it is nothing compared with what it might and must have been had it not been for the temporary suspension and cooling of the lava; whole townships must then have been swept away, and a blackened waste appeared where once were smiling vineyards and pretty 'well-got up' villas."

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS.—The Board of Trade returns for the month ending the 30th of April, shows an increase of £320,579 as compared with those at about the same period of last year. The increase, however, has been chiefly in goods of the character of raw material, such as oil and seeds, and the yarns of cotton, linen, wool, and silk, and consequently indicates an improved feeling among the Continental and other foreign manufacturers, rather than any particular activity on this side. Cotton manufactures exhibit a good total, but haberdashery, hardware, saddlery, metals, &c., still show the absence of revival in the trade of the Colonies and the United States. With regard to imported commodities, the principal feature continues to be the smallness of the quantities of foreign grain and flour. Of salted provisions the consumption has been large. Coffee, cocoa, sugar, spices, tobacco, and spirits have likewise been extensively used. Tea shows a diminution, which has brought the quantity taken thus far during the year down to the limit of the first four months of 1854.

TRADE WITH THE BLACK SEA.—During the past week a large number of vessels have arrived at Hull from Constantinople, Odessa, and Kertch. The receipts of linseed at this port from the Black Sea exceed in quantity those of the corresponding periods of former years, when we were at peace with Russia.

THE INDIAN DEPARTMENT IN THE PARIS EXHIBITION.—The parties in charge of this portion of the great industrial display have contrived to gratify both their English *employés* and the Parisian public. French attendants are employed in the Indian department on Sundays, and the English set at liberty to solace the day as their consciences dictate.

FINE ARTS.

THE ARUNDEL SOCIETY.

THE publications for the sixth year of this society consist of a third series of eight engravings by the Dalziels, after Mr. Williams's drawings from the frescoes by Giotto in the Chapel of the Arena at Padua, and a continuation of "A Notice of Giotto and his Works in Padua," by Mr. Ruskin. The artistic portion of the contribution is executed in the same satisfactory manner which marked its predecessors. When completed, the series will prove of the highest interest and advantage in promoting a knowledge of the growth of modern art in the earlier stages of its history.

While, however, we hail with satisfaction this attempt to revive the creations of genius of a bygone age, but whose influence will survive to all time, we cannot help wishing that the critical matter which accompanied them were more in harmony with the feelings which we think they should properly inspire. It is as the founder of modern art that Giotto has always claimed to be considered; and his works are interesting and valuable as affording the earliest *indicia* of the distinctive life principles which characterised that art. To study them well and profitably, one must be imbued with a congenial spirit, having shaken off the trammels of Byzantine mannerism; and, if we rightly understand them, we must rejoice at each innovation—certainly not rebuke it by contrast with exploded dogmas. Yet this is not the spirit in which Mr. Ruskin deals with his subject. No veneration for time-established renown restrains his critical propensity; no magic of the artist's master-pencil can awe him from the attempt to find fault with what does not exactly meet his peculiar predilections, and which, perhaps, he does not exactly comprehend. As a whole, these "notices" are disparaging of the fame of the great Florentine, and exactly upon those points wherein his chief merit has always been held to consist. The qualities which essentially marked the style of Giotto, as distinguished from almost all who had gone before him, were inventive power, a bold resistance of the arbitrary types and methods of the Byzantine and Romanesque schools, and a highly-poetical method of treatment evinced in the introduction of natural incidents and dramatic action in the motives. It may be added that these frescoes in the Arena Chapel are of importance, as being amongst the earliest examples of the development of this aspiring genius in the new line in which he was so soon followed by innumerable successors throughout Italy. But it is for these very peculiarities that Mr. Ruskin finds fault with Giotto; he considers them evidences of a heterodox spirit, unworthy of grand ecclesiastical art, and repugnant to the established formulae of dark and forgotten ages. Hear what he says of a charming feature which distinguishes the fresco of "The Presentation in the Temple." It is an error, by the way, at starting, to describe Giotto as the head of "the Naturalist School;" that distinctive appellation not having been introduced till nearly three centuries afterwards—namely, on the downfall of the grand Historical School, the foundations of which he laid. Nevertheless, thus writes Mr. Ruskin of this masterly composition:—

This design is one of those which are peculiarly characteristic of Giotto as the head of the Naturalist. No painter before his time would have dared to represent the child Jesus as desiring to quit the arms of Simeon, or the Virgin as in some sort interfering with the Prophet's earnest contemplation of the child by stretching her arms to receive him. The idea is evidently a false one, quite unworthy of the higher painters of the religious school; and it is a matter of peculiar interest to see what must have been the strength of Giotto's love of plain facts, which could force him to stoop so low in the conception of this most touching scene. The child does not, it will be observed, merely stretch its arm to the Madonna, but is even struggling to escape, violently raising the left foot.

This one passage would be sufficient of itself to illustrate the bias of the critic's mind, and to show how entirely he and his subject are at variance. We need not wonder at his other strictures, which are of a nature to denude the once famous Giotto of the robes of honour with which till now he has been arrayed. Thus, of "The Massacre of the Innocents," we are told:—

Of all the series, this composition is the one which exhibits most of Giotto's weaknesses. All early work is apt to fail in the rendering of violent action; but Giotto is, in this instance, inferior not only to his successors, but to the feeblest of the miniature-painters of the thirteenth century; while his imperfect drawing is seen at its worst in the nude figures of the children.

"The Baptism of Christ" is invidiously compared with a Byzantine type, to the advantage of the latter. Giotto's rendering of the subject of "The Wise Men's Offering," "cannot but be felt to be barren;" "it is, in fact, perhaps the least powerful of all the series," and several little defects in detail are pointed out in it. In "The Young Christ in the Temple," Mr. Ruskin says:—"Giotto has fallen considerably below his usual standard." What that standard is we are not informed, nor what the grade in the order of merit conceded to him; after allowance made for numberless errors of omissions and commissions. "The faces appear to be cold and hard, and the attitudes are as little graceful as expressive either of attention or surprise. The Madonna's action, stretching out her arms to embrace her son, is pretty; but on the whole the picture has no value."

With this we close the operation of comparing notes with Mr. Ruskin touching the merits and claims of Giotto. Of Mr. Ruskin's fertile imagination and extraordinary creative fancy we have had occasion to speak at some length at different periods. Here is a "flight" concerning Angels which may be worth preserving among the canons of modern criticism:—

There is noticeable here, as in all works of this early time, a certain confidence in the way in which the angels trust to their wings, very characteristic of a period of bold and simple conception. Modern science has taught us that a wing cannot be anatomically joined to a shoulder; and in proportion as painters approach more and more to the scientific, as distinguished from the contemplative state of mind, they put the wings of their angels on more timidly, and dwell with greater emphasis upon the human form, and with less upon the wings, until these last become a species of decorative appendage—a mere sign of an angel. But in Giotto's time an angel was a complete creature, as much believed in as a bird; and the way in which it would or might cast itself into the air, and lean hither and thither upon its plumes, was as naturally apprehended as the manner of flight of a chough or a starling. Hence Dante's simple and most exquisite synonym for angel, "Bird of God;" and hence also a variety and picturesqueness in the expression of the movements of the heavenly hierarchies by the earlier painters, ill replaced by the powers of foreshortening, and throwing naked limbs into fantastic positions, which appear in the cherubic groups of later times.

"THE DEPARTURE" AND "THE RETURN." By Mr. SOLOMON.

Mr. Solomon's two clever pictures, "The Departure" and "The Return" (familiar to visitors to the Royal Academy Exhibitions during the last two seasons), are of a nature to enlist the domestic sympathies and to afford a useful and encouraging lesson; and we are not, therefore, surprised to find that they are already in the hands of the engraver, with a view to publication. Mr. W. H. Simmons is the engraver to whom they have been entrusted; and, previously to the commencement of his labours, the pictures are now temporarily on view at the rooms of Messrs. Colnaghi and Co. "The Departure" represents the outset in life of a young lad destined to seek his fortunes in Australia. The scene is the interior of a second-class railway carriage, where, nervous, ill at ease, yet manfully struggling against the home regrets which rise in his bosom the poor stripling is accompanied by his sorrowing mother and sister to the port where he is to join his ship. The incident is a touching one of every-day life, told with admirable power and feeling. In the picture of "The Return" we find the lad, now advanced in years to dawning manhood, seated in a first-class carriage; his mate's uniform telling us of his past honourable service and well-earned promotion. Two other figures complete the group; one, that of a comfortable and evidently wealthy old gentleman of the olden school, who listens with interest to the young man's account of his adventures, and his plans for the future; the other that of the old gentleman's fair-haired, blue-eyed daughter, who, like another Desdemona, treasures up each word which falls from the young hero's lips, and who is evidently destined to become his guiding-star in the future voyage of life. The latter picture has been somewhat altered in the arrangement since it was exhibited, and with manifest advantage. We have no doubt these pictures will become popular.

M. R. MONTI'S LECTURES ON SCULPTURE.—M. Raphael Monti delivered the first of a series of lectures on sculpture, on Wednesday, at his studio in Great Marlborough-street, before a select and attentive audience. After some general introductory remarks, the lecturer confined himself in this discourse chiefly to the sculpture of the ancient Egyptians and Assyrians, which he illustrated with numerous well-executed diagrams. In his next lecture, M. Monti will treat of the art of the Indians, as exhibited in their numerous remains.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

THE Lords who preside over our learned London societies have just fulfilled the yearly honours of their presidencies in a manner very becoming to the position of each. Thus Earl de Grey has been entertaining the Institute of Architects in St. James's-square, with his fine Vandykes, and something new as well, bearing immediately on architecture. Thus the Earl of Ellesmere has been entertaining the Geographical Society with his Orleans acquisitions, and maps, and other matters relating to recent discoveries in geographical knowledge. Thus Lord Londesborough has been entertaining the Numismatic Society with his own collections acquired since their last annual meeting. At each gathering everything went off most satisfactorily. This is cheering. Our nobility are now attending to learned studies. We have already named three noblemen particularly suited to represent the Institutions over which they preside; nor should we forget that Lord Wrottesley is the President of the Royal Society, and Lord Stanhope the President of the Society of Antiquaries.

We renewed our knowledge, during the present week, of that part of the British Museum to which Whitsun visitors are admitted, and were pleased to see at every turn fresh evidence of the interest which the skilled mechanic is taking in the treasures there assembled for the information of the world. The galleries and compartments were thickly crowded with labouring men, accompanied by their wives and children. There was less noise, greater curiosity, and less touching than we remember on any other occasion of the kind. We saw more guide-books in the hands of young men—and, better still, a more constant and sensible reference to them. Every facility for seeing the Museum, accompanied with due security from fire, should most certainly be afforded to the people. Nor are the authorities inactive to this portion of their duties. On Saturdays, from twelve till five, during the months of June and July, the Museum is now, for the first time, open to the public. This is to meet the Early Closing movement—and a very good meet it is. What is Mr. Franks about—or rather, what are the Trustees of the British Museum about, that the Collection of Antiquities relating to this country, make as yet so sorry a display in the room set apart for their exhibition? Mr. Franks is a most excellent public servant, admirably suited for the position he has been selected to fill. There is no fault with him. The Trustees already possess a fine collection of good things, meriting display. A room, with cases and titles, into which the public are admitted, has been allotted out for their exhibition, and yet, after three years' waiting, we can see nothing more than a scanty settlement of things only sufficient to provoke a smile. Surely the fault is with the Trustees. An exhibition of Mediæval Antiquities, such as the country has in its power almost to prompt, would be found one of the leading attractions of our great Museum, and should therefore be set about and completed forthwith.

We must be late in the field (our readers will know why) in giving our opinion upon the literary merits of the novel called "Moreduin," which M. Cabany has attributed (we use a light expression) to Sir Walter Scott, and Mr. Sampson Low has now published. We took an active part in canvassing the authenticity of the MS., and ended our controversy with M. Cabany by allowing the work to stand, not on its attributed importance, but upon its own literary merits—feeling (with the public generally) that Sir Walter's hand was not to be mistaken.

If M. Cabany was deceived the public has not been deceived: the published "Moreduin" (so the world of London letters has pronounced) is not the work of the author of "Waverley." Its real author is not a "Great," but a "Little Unknown."

The last week has witnessed the announcement of a work "in the press" and "immediately forthcoming" which will show, we are told, that drooping Poetry is not wholly extinct among us. The muse of the Poet Laureate has given birth to a volume called "Maud and other Poems." The name is not happy, inasmuch as it is provocative:—

Is there a poet much bemused (be-Meused) with beer,
A Maudlin poetess, a rhyming peer?

So sings Pope; but Mr. Tennyson is essentially a poet, and we have no fear of receiving maudlin poetry from his muse. We all remember (it occurred in our own time) the unhappy title of "Poetic Virgils," said to have been printed "Poetic Virgils," and the "Prose and Verse" of a real wit which a cockney compositor or a good-natured friend reduced to "Prose and Verse."

Theodore Hook's cottage at Fulham, modestly sitting under the shadow of the trees of the See of London, that skirt the Thames where our noble river is last seen in her pastoral character, is on the eve of destruction, and the hammer of the auctioneer is scattering while we write the parterres and upland lawns of Wimbledon, which the late Mrs. Marryat (that liberal supporter of all our Horticultural Exhibitions) formed and decorated with a true relish for Nature in her happiest mood. Associations vanish from before us too rapidly. What cannot Time destroy?

Where's Troy and where's the Maypole in the Strand?

Time, the genius of improvement, and the march of commerce are fast removing some of our interesting associates in the environs of London. Other associations will grow up; but we must regret many that are irrecoverably gone.

There is an addition to the objects of interest preserved in Greenwich Hospital, which deservedly attracts a crowd of thoughtful spectators. In a glass case, close to the case containing the coat which the heroic Nelson wore when killed, is now to be seen the few, but suggestive, remains of the ill-fated Franklin and his followers. Here are silver spoons, broken watches, a few gold and silver coins, and other metal trinkets, known to have formed part of the outfit of Franklin and his friends. Some bear crests and ciphers, and all seem to speak of hunger and endurance—of bold enterprise and heroic daring. Before these last memorials, from eyes unused to tears, tears have been seen to fall.

As we are to have a new volume of poetry, so are we to have a new and solitary Engraving. Mr. Moxon is to give us the "Maud" of Tennyson; and Mr. Graves is to publish, on the 18th of June, a large and excellent engraving by Atkinson, from Sir Edwin Landseer's picture of "The Great Duke Revisiting Waterloo, in Company with the Marchioness of Douro"—the present Duchess of Wellington. Our readers will remember the picture, and Mr. Atkinson has wrought (so say judges) with a vigour and refinement uncommon of late years in our English school of engraving.

IRISH EMIGRANTS.—The annual report of Major Greig, head constable of Liverpool, states, as a matter of significant importance, that the number of persons who entered that town from Ireland in the year 1854 showed a material decrease to the year preceding, the total number having been 158,897 against 253,652 in 1853; of this number 151,382 are distinguished as labourers and emigrants, and 7425 as paupers.

DISCOVERY OF RELICS IN THE GLASGOW CATHEDRAL.—A discovery of a very interesting character was made in Glasgow Cathedral a few days ago. While the workmen were removing the flooring from the spot lying exactly between the two eastmost columns on the south side of the choir, they came upon two stone slabs, under which a long sheet of lead was exposed to view. Removing this lead, a long narrow stone-grave was found filled with fine sand and dust; and when this was partially cleared away, the skeleton of a full-grown man was seen, lying with the head to the west. This spot joins the site upon which stood the high altar of the Archbishopial Church of Glasgow, and which must in Roman Catholic times have been a *sanctum sanctorum*. The idea that these are the relics of some ancient "Father in Israel" is strengthened by many circumstances. Amongst the debris was found pieces of strong brown silk, and to some of the leg bones this material was found adhering in several folds, showing that it had been wrapped round them, and rendering it plain that the whole body had been swathed in a similar manner. In addition to these silken bands, another material was found, of much more elaborate texture, consisting apparently of a line of fringing or trimming, in which the representations of flowers, exquisitely worked, is still quite visible. Neither wood nor lead had been used to enclose the body, nor was the stone coffin of a character similar to those which have been found in other parts of the cathedral, nor are still shown in the crypt.

CHESS.

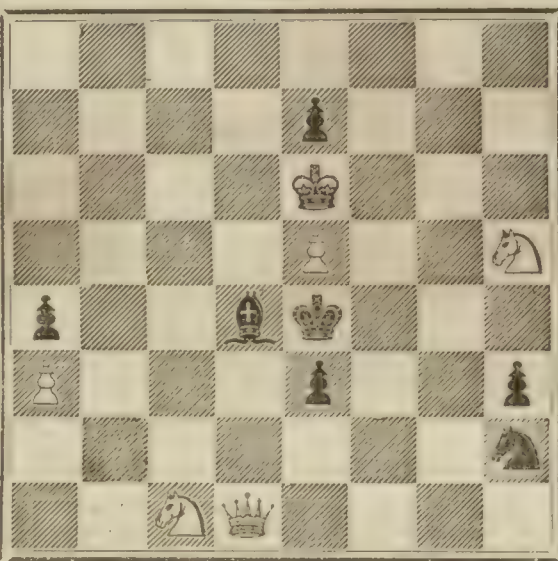
TO CORRESPONDENTS.

DEREVON.—Your Solution of the elegant Problem we extracted from Lucena's work is the true one.
S. W.—To appreciate the extreme beauty and difficulty of such a stratagem as the "Indian Problem," a great deal more knowledge of Chess is required than you possess. When you have advanced beyond the rudiments of the Game, you will understand that it may be one of the easiest things imaginable in a given position to mate in five moves, while to do so in four may cost a shrewd brain some days' hard study.
C. E. H.—Very acceptable. Many thanks for your attention.
HINDOO, Cambridge.—You will find it impracticable, if Black play Kt to K 5th on his second move.
M. T., Guernsey.—The "Chess-Player's Handbook," published by Bohn, price 5s.
C. F. H., 79, Cornhill, Bala, Yddaw, Emily, Victoria, J. M., Sherburn, G. J., Cornwallis, and many others.—In your attempt to solve the last Problem, you each fail to observe that, if the White Queen be played to Q B 6th or Q 7th, Black may take it, giving check, and thus evade the mate.
E. B. C., New Jersey.—The collection of games played in the matches at New York have safely reached us, and the best shall appear forthwith.
ANDER, Havre.—In Problem No. 587, Mate cannot be effected as you propose, if Black for his 2nd move play P to K 3rd.
L. B.—If in Problem No. 584, Black for his second move advance the P to K B 4th, White plays 3. K to Kt 6th, 4. B takes Kt, and 5. B to Q 6th—Mate.
F. S.—Undoubtedly he can.
W. C. K., MERCATOR, T. F. G.—A true bill, as we found on looking over the game when it was in type.
H. J. E. A.—At all times acceptable. The last shall be noticed next week.
T. W., Lichfield.—The most attractive feature in the coming meeting at Leamington will be the novel one of handsome prizes being given for competition among the leading Chess-players; and another, hardly less so, the proposed Match by Electric Telegraph, to be played by five players at Glasgow against five at Leamington. Altogether, this gathering seems likely to be by far the most interesting which the Northern and Midland Chess Association has ever held.
OXFORD.—There is no copy of Verel's "Letters on Chess" in the Library of the British Museum.
ALPHA, C. W., SUNBURY, DAYLISS, NETTLE, R. P., M. G. W.—Under examination.
TIPPOO SAIB.—Ineligible, though certainly giving promise of something better, when the author has acquired a little more experience.
BRISTOL, THE PROBLEMS: A. B., Cambridge.—The Programme of the forthcoming Grand Chess Meeting at Leamington will be ready, at the beginning of next week.
You had better apply immediately to the Committee, through the Rev. W. Temple, of Leamington.
SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 587, by Rugby-boy, L. S. D., Bayliss, D. D., Mrs. Millicock, F. R., D. A., J. Stonehouse, W. C. C., Onocleporus, Andrew, Philip, Burgess, C. S. M., M. F., Miles, Phil, W. T. W., Perseus, H. T. M., C. F. G., Camilla, Emily, Victoria, Allyene, Conventry, Percy, C. W., Sunbury, Mysore, Gaberlunzie, H. F. O., Benjamin, Omega, D. D., F. M., are correct. All others are wrong.

PROBLEM No. 589.

This clever adaptation of a position published by us some years ago, which then admitted of a twofold solution, is by C. M. INGLEBY, M.A., of Birmingham.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in four moves.

GAME V.

In the Match between MM. LA ROCHE and DE RIVIERE.

(Irregular Opening.)

WHITE (M. La R.)	BLACK (M. De R.)	WHITE (M. La R.)	BLACK (M. De R.)
1. P to K 4th (a)	P to Q 4th	21. Q B takes R	R to K B sq
2. P to Q 4th	P to K 3rd	22. K B to K 4th	P takes Q B
3. K Kt to K B 3rd	P to Q B 4th	23. R to K B sq	B to K 4th
4. P to Q Kt 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	24. Q to K 6th	P to Q Kt 3rd
5. Q B to Q Kt 2nd	P to Q 5th	25. R to K B 5th	Q to Q 3rd
6. Q Kt to Q R 3rd	P to K B 4th	26. Q takes Q	B takes Q
7. P to Q 3rd	K Kt to K B 3rd	27. R to Q 5th	R to Q sq
8. Q Kt to Q B 2nd	P to Q 4th	28. K to Kt 2nd	K to Kt 2nd
9. P to K Kt 3rd	K B to Q 3rd	29. P to Q 4th	P takes P
10. K B to K Kt 2nd	Q to K 2nd	30. R takes Q P	B takes R
11. Castles	Castles	31. R takes R	P to K 4th
12. K R to K sq	P to K 4th	32. P to K Kt 4th	K to Kt 4th
13. K B P takes P	Q Kt takes P	33. P takes P	K to K 4th
14. P to K 3rd (b)	Q Kt takes Kt (ch)	34. B to K Kt 6th	K to Kt 4th
15. Q takes Kt	Q P takes P	35. K to B 3rd	P to K B 4th
16. Kt takes P	Q to Q 2nd	36. B to K 5th	B to K 2nd
17. Kt takes K B P (c)	Q B takes Kt	37. P to K R 3rd	B to Q 3rd
18. Q takes B	K to R sq	38. B to Q 2nd	P to K B 5th
19. K R to K 6th	Q R to Q sq	39. B to K Kt 4th	
20. K R takes Kt (d)	K R takes R		And White wins.

(a) Close openings are very instructive, and they often lead to combinations of peculiar interest and beauty; but, we must confess, that even in a match they are all the better for being cultivated now and then with some of the bolder and more rapid debuts. In the present contest the want of variety in the opening of the game is particularly observable, and one cannot help thinking that a sparkling "Muzio," a brilliant "Evans," and a dashing "Allgaier" thrown in occasionally, would have been as great a relief to the players themselves, as they would prove to the amateur who seeks amusement in fighting these battles over again.

(b) If he played—

WHITE. BLACK.

14. Kt takes Kt. Then B takes Kt.

15. P to K 3rd. P takes P.

(c) Q B takes Kt, followed by Kt to Q 5th, would have been at least as good play as taking the Pawn.

(d) Better far, we believe, to have taken the Kt with the Bishop.

THE SPEED OF THE SECOND GAME OF THIS MATCH.—There would be some who would say that the second game was played with extraordinary speed, and that, in fact, it was a mere display of rapidity of hand, and not a contest of brains. This is a mistake. The game was played with great care and deliberation, and the moves were all well considered. The game was played with great interest, and the moves were all well considered. The game was played with great interest, and the moves were all well considered.

CHESS IN NEW YORK.

The following is the final game of a match recently played in the New York Chess-club, between Messrs. PERRIN and LOYD:—

WHITE (Mr. L.)	BLACK (Mr. P.)	WHITE (Mr. L.)	BLACK (Mr. P.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	12. P to Q 4th	B to Q 3rd
2. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	13. B to K Kt 5th	Q takes KBP (n)
3. P to Q B 3rd (a)	P to Q 4th	14. B takes Kt	P takes B
4. K B to Q Kt 5th	Q B to K Kt 5th	15. Q takes Q P (ch)	K to his 2nd
	(b)	16. Q to K 4th (o)	Q R to K Kt sq (ch)
5. Q to Q R 4th (c)	B takes Kt (d)		
6. B takes Q Kt (ch)	P takes B	17. K to R sq	Q to K R 6th (p)
7. Q takes P (ch)	K to his 2nd (e)	18. R to K Kt sq	R takes R (ch)
8. P to Q Kt 3rd (f)	P to K B 4th (g)	19. K takes R	R to K Kt sq (ch)
9. P takes K B P	Q to Q B sq (i)	20. Q to K Kt 4th	R takes Q (ch)
10. P takes B (k)	Kt to K B 3rd	21. P takes R	P to K 5th
11. Castles (l)	K to K B 2nd (m)	22. P to K B 4th	P to K 6th

And White resigned the Game and the Match; the score at the termination being:— Perrin ... 5 | Loyd ... 2 | Drawn 1

Notes, by Mr. C. Stanley, of New York.
(a) This is a more attacking opening than it appears, and requires very careful answering by the second player. It will be seen what trouble Black got into by departing from the beaten track.
(b) Black plays cautiously. He should have taken K P, notwithstanding White's obvious reply of Kt takes K P.
(c) An excellent move, gaining a Pawn and position.
(d) A daring move, which ultimately won the game.
(e) Apparently a good position for Black's K.
(f) The sacrifice of this Pawn was far better than tamely moving it to K B 3rd, which would have materially hindered the development of Black's game.
(g) Threatening mate.
(h) His only move to prevent loss.
(i) Observe that this Bishop had been en prise during five moves, and White had always stronger moves at his command than taking it. He dare not delay the capture any longer.
(j) The source of all his subsequent difficulties.
(k) Black perceived the mode of play to be offering an exchange of Queens by playing Q to K sq, to preserve his Q Pawn. He goes in for a vigorous counter attack.
(l) This move, obvious as it is, is fatal.
(m) The winning move.

A CHESS ENIGMA.

(The following slight but not inelegant effusion was produced a short time ago at the table of a distinguished Baronet: Lincolnshire, and has never, we believe, been published.)

Say, Cottesmore Hunt, for thou canst say,
Spite of thy valorous boast,
How oft my first, with chill dismay,
Has stopped thy merry rout.

When twilight steals o'er dale and hill,
And pales the golden west,
My second loves to linger still
Beside the ring-dove's nest.

Though, motionless before my wine,
Oftimes have monarchs stood,
I never mixed the poisoned bowl,
Nor shed the regal blood.

"HENRY THE EIGHTH," AT THE PRINCESS' THEATRE.

Of those unparalleled revivals, with spectacular accessories, for which Mr. C. Kean has made his management of this theatre so celebrated, the tragedy selected for the present season being the magnificent dramatic chronicle so historically treated by Shakspeare, under the title of "King Henry VIII.," is perhaps the most significant and noteworthy. The prologue to this stately drama is illustrative of its quality. Here are a few lines:—

Be sad as we would make ye: think ye see
The very persons of our noble story
As they were living: think you see them great,
And followed with the general throng and sweat
Of thousand friends; then, in a moment, see
How soon this mightiness meets misery.
And if you can be merry then, I'll say,
A man may weep upon his wedding-day.

Changes of fortune, such as the prologue describes, are the great argument of this sublime production. Henry himself is, as it were, the presiding providence, whose right to do wrong is never questioned by his victims. Each and all bless him in their deaths, and recognise his justness under the strangest antecedents; nay, seem sincerely to confess for him the strongest affection. What has befallen them may be their misfortune, but never can be his fault. There is, in fact, a despotism recognised in the circumstances of the time—a dispensation and over-ruling of all things for a providential purpose—an end justifying the means—a destiny to which the apparently self-willed King is as subject as the meanest of his serfs. There is a religious revolution in progress, the interests of which transcend and overwhelm all other considerations. This ideal it is which elevates the theme of these marvellous scenes, and makes us not only tolerate the oppression we witness, but justify it. Human dignity is not consulted; but an inexorable decree that levels all distinctions of merit, and drives the wisest into error, is tacitly acknowledged.

In this gallery of illustrious victims one in particular excites our profoundest pity. Thoroughly Christian in feeling, calmly confident of her rectitude, and its recompense hereafter, Katherine, the holder of a queenly station, is, without any fault of her own, degraded from her just pre-eminence by the caprice of an unfaithful husband. But her moral elevation is maintained, and she preserves her character in the midst of all mutations—a constant, loving woman; a forgiving saint; a pious martyr, a wronged, a suffering, and a dying wife; conscious not alone of her innocence, but of her greatness, and superior to injury. Of this lofty character Mrs. C. Kean is one of the best representatives on the modern stage; and, in her idiosyncrasy, has many qualifications for its adequate rendering. To her performance of it on this occasion an added interest pertains. She has not appeared on the boards for a year and a half, owing to severe indisposition, and her return is a matter of congratulation to her friends and the public. In testimony of the occasion, and from personal regard, the foremost and fairest of her actresses, putting aside individual vanity, consented to act as her maids of honour, and filled the stage with beauty and reverential homage. This was to appear indeed as a queen, and the proud artiste felt her position, and realised the character as few have ever done before. Owing to the arrangement of the play, also, Mrs. Kean had special opportunities. The scene between the Cardinals and the deposed Queen is restored, and afforded space for the manifestation of feeling into which the actress poured a pathetic soul full of touching grandeur and religious resignation. By an admirable contrivance in the fourth act, the Dream of Queen Katherine was realised, and a vision of angels descended, gliding on a sunbeam upon her slumber in actual presence with the most beautiful effect. This scene forms the subject of our Illustration. The death of the Royal martyr was truthful and fine. Nor must we omit, on revisiting the performance, to praise as it deserves the acting of Mr. Kean in Wolsey. In the costume of the character he took advantage of all that could improve and dignify the appearance, and in the conception carefully avoided the mannerism of his predecessors, and brought out several new and admirable points. Throughout, it was remarkable for its finish and precision. The subdued pathos of the third act, commencing with its meditative mood, proceeding with the startling passages of the great man's fall and utter ruin, and ending with his prostration and repentance, has never been exceeded. The peculiarities of Mr. Kean's style—the tone, the gesture, the abrupt action—all aided the solemn impression. It is unnecessary to repeat that the whole of the play is elaborately acted. The veteran Mr. Cooper, who appeared for the occasion as Griffiths, in the dying scene of Queen Katherine, assisted the serious tone of the last moments of the majestic sufferer, carefully preserving the picturesqueness of the situation while the celestial messengers visited her sick couch, with their friendly suggestions of final recompense in a happier world. Nothing, we may add, can be more excellent than the grouping of the different accessories to this as to every scene, and the general accuracy and beauty of the pictorial illustrations. Mr. Kean has evidently consulted every available authority, and reproduced the world of the age in which the important action of this grand historical drama took place, in order that he might, as he states, as far as possible, "render the stage what it should be—a true and perfect mirror of history and manners." Many of the scenes are taken from old drawings (to be found in the Bodleian) by Von Den Wynreede and Holbein, &c. To the first we are indebted for the views in a panorama of London, and the old palace of Greenwich, where Queen Anne Boleyn resided at the time of the christening of the Princess Elizabeth—whither the Lord Mayor and City Council in their state barges go in procession to witness the Royal ceremonial. To the same artist we owe the scenes of the old Palace-yard, and of King's Stairs, Westminster, with which the drama commences. To Holbein is due the design for a chimney-piece in the palace of Bridewell, where the Queen was visited by Wolsey and Campeius. The "Vetusta Monumenta" supplies the scene of the Council Chamber in the first act. A gorgeous scene, representing the festival given by Wolsey, and the masque contrived for his surprise by the monarch, is drawn more from the fancy of the artist, but he has followed the authority of Cavendish with the utmost closeness. The processions are admirably introduced; that of Queen Anne's Coronation was signally effective; the carriage of Miss Heath, who sustained the character with much beauty, was excellent. The number of set-scenes has rendered one of the contrivances of the French stage necessary. Folding curtains, of magnificent velvet, are occasionally let down while the requisite scenic arrangements are being made. This production, with that of "Louis XI.," restores to the excellent company of this theatre the opportunity of testing their talents in the masterpieces of dramatic genius. In both parts—that of the French Monarch and the ambitious English Cardinal, Mr. Kean, in particular, has proved to the public and his critics that he is not only a really great actor, but a consummate master of his art.

CEREMONY OF "THROWING THE DART."

The visit of his Excellency the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland to the city of Cork, last week, was the occasion of the observance of an interesting municipal custom, which our Artist has pictured in the accompanying Illustration.

On Wednesday morning, his Excellency and suite, accompanied by a distinguished party, after visiting the Sailors' Home, proceeded to the Custom-house and entered the Cork, Blackrock, and Passage Railway Steamer Victoria.

The scene of the quays at either side was strikingly picturesque. The ships lying in both channels of the river, were gaily decorated with flags and streamers. Their decks, masts, and rigging were crowded with persons anxious to see the Viceroy, and as he made his appearance a deafening cheer arose from the vast assemblage. The steamer Victoria, which conveyed his Excellency and the parties who accompanied him in the ex-



SCENE FROM SHAKESPEARE'S PLAY OF "HENRY THE EIGHTH," AT THE PRINCESS' THEATRE.—THE VISION—QUEEN KATHERINE'S DREAM.

curion was decorated for the occasion. The excellent band of the 15th Regiment of Foot was in attendance.

A Guard of Honour of the Cork city Constabulary, with a troop of the 16th Lancers, attended the Viceregal cortège as it entered the steamer. Precisely at half-past ten o'clock the steamer was loosed from its moorings and moved along from the quay, while the Royal salute, which was fired was scarcely heard amid the loud cheers. Her Majesty's steam-tender *Advice* followed the Viceregal steamer. The *Prince Arthur* river steamer also followed with a large company of citizens, and the Harbour Commissioners' steamer *Queen* also accompanied.

The Mayor was surrounded by his Excellency the Lord-Lieutenant and suite; the various Consuls resident in Cork; and the Corporation; who vociferously cheered the ceremony. His Excellency remained on the gangway a considerable time, in company with Captain Clarke, Harbour-Master; Mr. Fagan, M.P.; and Lord Fermoy, and made several inquiries regarding the harbour.

During the return, Mr. R. L. Stopford, who had made the accompanying Sketch of the ceremony for the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, had the honour of submitting the same to the Lord-Lieutenant, who expressed himself much pleased with the representation.

As the steamer passed Blackrock Castle, the flag which streamed from its summit was lowered, and a salute was fired. The steamers proceeded down at a moderately rapid rate to Haulbowline Island, where his Excellency and a large company landed, and were received by a guard of honour of the 16th Lancers, with the General (Mansel) and staff. The guard-ship in the harbour fired twenty-one guns. His Excellency, accompanied by several distinguished personages, was conducted by Mr. Ede, the superintendent, over the entire stores, which are at present well filled with every requisite for the navy. Having concluded his inspection of Haulbowline his Excellency proceeded in the Admiralty barge to Spike Island Convict Dépôt, where he remained a considerable time.

Soon after his Excellency's embarkation, Mr. Hugh Cole, of Queens-

town, Admiralty Chart Agent, having been introduced to his Excellency by the Mayor, presented to him a fine chart of Cork Harbour, with views of Queenstown, Haulbowline and Spike Island, accompanied by a suitable address.

His Excellency and the Viceregal cortège in the Admiralty barge, re-joined the steamer, at Haulbowline, shortly before two o'clock, when the steamer proceeded to sea, and having arrived at a point commencing the outline of the Poor-head on the left, and the Old-head of Kinsale on the right, the Mayor and civic authorities proceeded to assert the corporate jurisdiction over the harbour by the customary formality of throwing the dart. For this purpose, the Mayor having robed himself in his scarlet cloak, with the official chain, &c., on his neck, proceeded to the bow of the vessel as soon as it had reached the extreme mouth of the harbour, when the dart (an arrow about four feet in length) having been handed to his Worship, he threw it into the water, amidst cheers from the councillors and other persons present.



CEREMONY OF "THROWING THE DART" BY THE MAYOR OF CORK.



"MARCHIONESS," WINNER OF "THE OAKS," AT EPSOM, 1855.

"MARCHIONESS," THE WINNER OF THE OAKS.

OWING to one of those lucky accidents peculiar to the Turf, the "Marchioness" carried off the Oaks on Friday the 25th ult. Nettle, the favourite and certain winner, unfortunately fell; the rider, Marlow, sustaining considerable injury. The mare is by Melbourne, sire of West Australian; her dam being Anizelli, daughter of Touchstone, winner of the St. Leger. In 1854 she ran at Doncaster, as a two-year-old, and was defeated by a head in a contest with Saraband. On Friday week she carried off the Oaks, to the great delight of her owner, Mr. Rudson Read, Mr. John Scott, her trainer, and Templeman, her rider. She is engaged in the Doncaster St. Leger, and other races.

Marchioness may be described as a fine mare. During a previous trial, her trainer had no confidence in her abilities—but the Oaks is an uncertain race. Very long odds could have been obtained against the victor at starting.

SURREY ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.

THE season at this popular place of entertainment commenced on Monday, for which occasion the proprietors have prepared a large Model Picture of Sebastopol, illustrated by the aid of a very numerous body of invalided

troops, who have returned from the actual seat of war, and here give living effect to the Siege of Sebastopol in Surrey. Thus they form the *dramatis personae* of the mimic fight, in sorties, repulses, attacks, and manoeuvres; and such sight-seers as recollect the living spectacle of the Battle of Waterloo, at Vauxhall Gardens, many years since, can form some idea of the effect given to the Picture-model exhibited to the holiday-keepers, on Monday last. The lake and grounds of the Surrey Zoological Gardens have served for celebrated scenes from nearly all parts of the world; but neither of its former spectacles has approached in current interest this Picture of the Siege of Sebastopol, aided by the pyrotechnic resources peculiar to the establishment; and long and loud was the applause of the mimic defeat of the Russian enemy.

The gigantic picture-model has been painted by Mr. Danson and assistants, from maps, plans, and drawings, and *via voce* information. It shows the town of Sebastopol, and the most prominent localities of the Siege.

In the extreme north the country stretches to the mountainous district beyond Eupatoria: a little in front of this high range of mountains are the memorable heights of the Alma. In the middle distance are the Allied fleets blockading the harbour, across the mouth of which a line of sunken ships extends from Fort Constantine on the north to Fort Alexander on the south side. The Wasp and Telegraph Batteries, and the

North Star Fort, on the north side of the harbour, which is also defended by Forts Constantine and Catherine, are also shown; and on the south side are Quarantine Fort and buildings, Fort Alexander, the Battery of Sebastopol, Fort Nicholas, and Fort Paul. At the right hand extremity of the Great Harbour is the Navy Baking-house, with other buildings, and above it is the Inkerman Lighthouse. The celebrated Malakoff Tower and outworks, and the Redan and Barrack Batteries, are conspicuous; in the middle distance to the right is the Garden Battery. In the centre the town of Sebastopol is seen, whence rises prominently the Cathedral. To the right are the Admiralty and the Docks; and still nearer, to the left, are the Round Tower and Battery, the Flagstaff (or Mât) Battery, and the loophole wall which surrounds a portion of the town. In the centre of the foreground is the Victoria Redoubt, near which a party of sailors and navvies are filling gabions and sand-bags, placing fascines, and otherwise employed in assisting the Sappers and Miners to form a mortar battery. On the right are the English batteries and field works, with the encampment of the British Army; and, on the left, the French are seen in position. In the foreground are the Russian out-works, a fac-simile of two heavy 13-inch mortars, a Lancaster gun; and a furnace for making red-hot shot.

In the Descriptive Key to the Model it is stated that the men who represent the English and French Soldiers, Zouaves, Russians, Artillery-



PICTURE-MODEL OF THE TOWN AND FORTS OF SEBASTOPOL, AT THE SURREY ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.

men, Sailors, Navvies, &c., have mostly served in the Crimea; who, having been disabled for future active service in the field, and discharged with suitable pensions, are yet able to take part in the mimic war.

In addition to this large Picture, there are in various parts of the Gardens Dioramic Views of Cronstadt, Helsingfors, Revel, Odessa, Eupatoria, Cathcart's Hill, and Balaclava, cleverly painted by Mr. P. Phillips; all which add the interest of the gigantic Model.

MUSIC.

GRISI'S performances are as attractive as ever. Her *Norma*, on Tuesday, drew an immense house, and was received with all the old enthusiasm. We have reason to understand that her engagement, which is only for ten nights, will not be prolonged, as she is then, with Mario, to proceed on an expedition to the provinces, arranged by Mr. Beale.

THE production of Mr. Henry Smart's new opera, "*Bertha*," or the *Gnome of Hartzburg*, has been delayed in consequence (it is said) of the indisposition of Mrs. Sims Reeves. It was announced for Saturday last, and again for Tuesday, and postponed without any notice to the public. It is a light, comic opera, and not a piece of German *diablerie*, as its title would lead one to suppose.

THE PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY'S CONCERT of Monday last (the sixth of the season) was, on the whole, a good and successful performance. Its most remarkable feature was a manuscript Symphony, by Mr. Cipriani Potter, written many years ago expressly for the Society, and performed at the time, but subsequently too much neglected, for it is a work of a high order, and worthy of a place among the works of the great foreign masters. It was most warmly received by the audience, and will not, we hope, be again lost sight of. The other orchestral works were Mendelssohn's Scottish Symphony, Beethoven's overture to "*Leonora*," and Spohr's overture to the "*Berg-Geist*." Beethoven's Violin Concerto was most magnificently performed by Sainton, and applauded with enthusiasm. The vocalists were Mdlle. Bohkoltz Falconi and Herr Formès. Mdlle. Falconi is an accomplished singer, and was completely successful in both her performances—a beautiful Siciliana, of Pergolesi, and the bravura air "*Non mi dir*," from "*Don Giovanni*."

THE ENGLISH GLEE AND MADRIGAL UNION have begun their morning concerts at Willis's Rooms. The first took place on Monday, and was attended by a large and fashionable audience. The members of the society, Mrs. Endersohn, Mr. and Mrs. Lockey, Mr. Hobbs, and Mr. H. Phillips, were assisted by Miss Phillips, Mrs. Beale, and Messrs. Foster, Cummings, Beale, and Thomas. They sang an excellent selection of English glees and madrigals, both ancient and modern, which were much applauded. By constantly singing together, these performers have acquired a purity and finish of style not surpassed in the most high and palmy days of glee-singing.

MR. BENSON'S ANNUAL CONCERT.—Mr. Benson has announced his annual concert to take place on Monday, June 4th, at the New Beethoven Rooms. The vocalists engaged for the occasion are, besides Mr. Benson, who will sing some of his most admired songs, Miss Poole, Miss Birch, Miss Milner, Mrs. Lockey; Mr. Francis, Mr. Land, and Mr. Lawler. The instrumental performers are Mr. Lindsay Sloper, who will preside at the pianoforte, Mr. H. Cooper (violin), Mr. Dando (viola), and Mr. Lucas (violoncello). The names of some of the best glees and madrigals of the late lamented Sir Henry Bishop appear in the programme, and there can be no doubt that the concert will prove attractive and successful.

THE THEATRES, &c.

HAYMARKET.—Miss Helen Faucit commenced on Monday a limited engagement with "*The Lady of Lyons*." A new play is also underlined, in which Miss Faucit will sustain the heroine. It is entitled "*Loves Martyrdom*," and is from the pen of Mr. John Saunders.

On Wednesday, a new farce was produced. Its title, "*Only a Halfpenny*," indicated the eccentric nature of the piece; to which Mr. Bullockstone, in the character of Mr. Stanley Jones, gave the most comic effect. The halfpenny in question has been lent to a young lady in an omnibus, to make up a fourpenny fare; and Mr. Jones as the creditor, improves the opportunity, to make further acquaintance with his beautiful debtor. Neither the young lady nor her maid has the proper coin forthcoming, and every other is systematically rejected by Jones, who has learned from the *soubrette* the position of domestic affairs. *Henrietta*, the heroine, is about to be married to the holder of her father's acceptance, as the readiest means of honouring the bill. Of course, Jones makes himself sufficiently disagreeable until he gets possession of the document by purchase, and sets the lady free to claim her for himself. Mr. Bullockstone's costume and characteristic extravagance maintained the audience in perpetual good-humour. The farce is indebted to a French original, entitled "*Histoire d'un Sou*," by MM. Clairville and Lambert Thiboust, lately produced at the Palais Royal. It was eminently successful.

ADELPHI.—Whit-Monday was signalled by the return of the wandering stars to this theatre—Madame Celeste, Mr. B. Webster, and Mr. and Mrs. Keeley. "*Janet Pride*" was repeated, and received with the usual favour.

ASTLEY'S.—The talents of Mr. Stocqueler have been engaged by Mr. W. Cooke for inaugurating the summer season with a new spectacle. The playwright takes us back to the times of the eighth Henry and to the field of the cloth of gold, the grandeurs of which it has fallen to the lot of Mr. W. Cooke to reproduce. A tournament is introduced, which occupies not only the stage but the circle; and the scenery throughout has been newly painted. These, with the general action of the piece, combine to present to the audience situations of magnificence and terror remarkably picturesque and exciting. Some of the set-scenes, such as a forest with reposing brigands, and many of the architectural illustrations, are first rate as examples of stage efficiency; and the occasional ballet interludes are spirited, characteristic, and elegant. The drama is in three acts, and entitled "*England and France in the Days of Chivalry*." It has evidently been the aim of Mr. Stocqueler to reflect the present in the past; and it must be confessed that he has executed his design with ability and taste. The equestrian feats in the ring still continue to be surprising, and novel effects have been introduced. The horsemen have not only to ride, but to practise the jugglery of balancing-cups and balls, during the rapid career of the steeds—tricks which were capitally managed by Mr. J. Cooke and Mr. Bridges. The house was crowded.

CITY OF LONDON.—Mr. Charles Mathews is announced as "*a star*" at this theatre. This engagement will go far to test the capacity of these East-end audiences for the appreciation of the fashionable and light drama. Their reception of the more severe and classic kind of theatrical composition has already been satisfactorily approved.

CREMORNE GARDENS.—This popular place of amusement was opened for the season on Monday last. Among the additions is a triumphal arch, emblematic of the union of England, France, and Turkey, and the superb mosque of Mahomet II., which is ornamented in close imitation of the choicest specimens at Constantinople and Cairo, its outline being that of the great Christian Church of Santa Sophia.

SOME of the Continental journals announce that the King of Sardinia and the King of Wurtemberg will visit the Emperor of the French this summer.

THE Grand Council of Ticino, in its sitting of the 22nd ult., passed a bill concentrating all authority over ecclesiastical matters in the hands of the State, without any intervention on the part of the ecclesiastical power. The Archbishop of Milan and Bishop of Como had previously protested against the bill.

EDUCATION IN ENGLAND.—COMMON THINGS.—Two Blue-books have just been published on this subject. The first contains copies of all minutes of the Privy Council on Education, arranged in chronological order, extending from the 3rd of June, 1539, to the 19th of January, 1855. The second, a thick volume of 765 pages, contains minutes of the Committee of Council on Education, correspondence, financial statements, examination papers, and reports by her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools for the year 1854-55. This two most remarkable of these reports, perhaps, are those of the Rev. H. Moseley and the Rev. W. H. Brookfield. Mr. Moseley does not consider that the present subjects of elementary instruction are the best, inasmuch as religious knowledge, reading, writing, arithmetic, English grammar, history, and geography, under the form in which they are usually taught in schools, tend but little to the development of the reasoning powers, or the exercise of the intelligence of children, and are but poor expedients of general education. He urges, and has urged for many years, the teaching of that kind of knowledge dignified by the name of the "*science of common things*," so powerfully advocated by the Lord Ashburton, but does not disguise the great difficulty of introducing this as a branch of elementary instruction, doubting, as he does, whether the whole of the training schools could furnish one master possessing enough for the purpose of that kind of scientific knowledge which must lie at the basis of it. Mr. Moseley thinks the science of chemistry the best adapted to this end, one great characteristic of which is, that, with whatever is to be done on and understood, there is always associated something that is to be done.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

A REALLY original idea is a rare thing, but a rarer still is a successful imitation. Crystal Palaces are no exception to the rule. Ours—that of the year 1851 in Hyde-park—was a grand success, in spite of Colonel Sibthorp; while the Dublin one had only a negative sort of prosperity, and that at New York was a really remarkable failure. The Universal Exhibition at Paris, from which so much was expected, and which we were told would unite all the beauties and magnificences of former similar undertakings without any of their defects, has as yet only emulated its American rival. It began ill, with that worst fault in business matters, unpunctuality. So incomplete was its condition at the time which many months before had been announced for its opening, that that ceremony was forcedly delayed for a fortnight. The original plan was so ill-considered, that at quite a late period it was found necessary to add an immense wing, or rather tail, to the building, stretching for nearly a quarter of a mile along the bank of the Seine, not at all ornamental in itself, and adding nothing to the *coup d'œil* of the main edifice, from which indeed it is entirely disconnected. Even now, a fortnight since the opening day, the Palais de l'Industrie proper, is in a great measure a mere wilderness of bare stalls and unopened packing cases, while the great gallery just mentioned, called the *Annexe*, and the Gallery and Pavillon des Panoramas, like housemaids in the forenoon, have not yet had time to make themselves fit to be seen. There is some excuse to be found for the semi-detached position of so many important parts of the entire construction which is so injurious to grand general effect, in the fact that these parts are only meant to be temporary, while the Palace proper (not by any means a crystal one, being for the most part of massive stone) is to be permanent, and looks like it. There is one fault to be found with the Palais de l'Industrie, hardly less serious than its incompleteness, and that is that, owing to what in England we should call the police arrangements, but may be more properly styled in France the military ones, nobody can go there without getting into a passion. One of the greatest comforts in our Exhibition of 1851 was that, once inside the doors, you might do what, and go where, you pleased. In Paris it is just the reverse: there are dozens of fierce little men, in moustachios, whose chief object in life seems to be the preventing you from going where you want to go. On *ne passe pas* is the expression most frequently used within the building, and the responsive *sacré-rr-r-r*, or other more highly flavoured expletives the next. Perhaps the British dam is even more audible though less frequent, for the practice of their railways where, somehow or another it seems as if the best-intentioned voyager could never do anything right, has accustomed our lively neighbours to this kind of dragging so that they obey the not very conciliatory orders of *la force publique* with a lamb-like meekness of which the true Briton, accustomed to argue the point of right of way with good-tempered policemen, or to menace Sir Richard Mayne or Inspector Pearce with a letter to the *Times*, has no idea. Still, with all its mismanagements, all its shortcomings, there is even now much that is grand and much that is beautiful within the walls of the Palais de l'Industrie. The Fine Arts department, which, with the exception of some sculpture, was wanting in our Exhibition, is here a remarkable point of attraction, and it is satisfactory to be able to say that the works of English artists worthily sustain a comparison with those of their foreign brethren.

The keepers of hotels and lodging-houses in Paris are just now in a dreadful state of mind. It cannot be said that the rents they ask are in general what may be called low; but as, according to their views, the entire human race would want to come to Paris all at the same time on some particular day in May, they very generally turned out their old *locataires* to make room for the expected influx of foreign Cressis. Alas for the hopes of man! the month of May is passed, and Paris is very little fuller than usual. The provincial persist in staying at home, waiting till the Exhibition shall be completed in good earnest, while the few hundred foreigners, chiefly single men, who have thus early found their way to the Boulevards, are very far from supplying the place of the families whom extortionate charges have driven to Brussels or the Rhine.

The war has already done us one good service—it has for ever put an end to the notion that a great nation, even with the security of an insular position, can afford to neglect her army. A very few years ago it was the opinion of many people that pageantry—the flading sentinels for the Royal palaces and providing a nice little review in Windsor-park for the amusement of any foreign potentate who happened to be passing that way—was the sole use of our army while at home, and that its other more active employment might be safely handed over to the police or the yeomanry. According to these philosophers, some thirty or forty thousand men, just to keep Kafirs and Canadian sympathisers in order, and to be able to spare a few regiments on an Indian campaign, just sufficient to enable the Queen's officers to claim the credit of the results earned by the Company's troops, was all that was necessary. Nobody thinks so now; the most peace-loving admit that before the war our military establishments had been allowed to sink below what prudence, or even the instinct of self-preservation would have prescribed. We all know that we must henceforth keep up a large army; and we have also learnt that, in order to make that force thoroughly efficient, we must give it a sort of training different from that which it would get from regimental drilling in barrack-yards. In many ways the Camp at Aldershot may exercise a most beneficial influence on the future of the British Army. A thousand things will be easily learnt there, which it would be almost impossible to acquire on the restricted space of a drilling ground, and with the restricted numbers of a regiment, or even of a brigade. Twenty thousand men are an army; and the mere assembling of such numbers, and the manoeuvres they will go through, must teach many a useful lesson both to men and officers. Without going through the hard ordeal of actual warfare, the former will become more self-reliant; they will learn how to put themselves, to build ovens or fireplaces, to cook; in short, to do for themselves more comfortably and completely: while the latter will become accustomed to all the intricate arrangements necessary in moving large bodies of men, and the system of keeping those men well fed, well clothed, and well tended in case of wounds or sickness. It seems that there are few things in the execution of which practical experience is more useful than in the manœuvring of considerable armies. The Duke of Wellington is reported to have said that if 70,000 men were marched into Hyde-park, he did not think there were a dozen officers in the British Army who could get them out again. This defect consequent on want of experience, is likely to be removed by the institution of the Camp at Aldershot. There all the strictly military arrangements—such as parade-grounds, out-works, hospitals, &c.—will probably be made in the best manner; but it is farther to be hoped that the authorities will not forget the old adage, that "*All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy*." When twenty or thirty thousand Jacks are collected together, all from eighteen to forty years old, the all-work-and-no-play system has a worse effect still—it is apt to make Jack morose, quarrelsome, and drunken. Cricket, quoits, foot-ball, and such manly games are sure to be popular, and their organisation may be safely left to the regimental officers; schools, too, there are sure to be in sufficient numbers. But there are other means of amusing, civilising, and even to a certain extent educating, the men, which ought not to be neglected—means which the French, at their camps in the neighbourhood of Boulogne, by no means neglect; and I think in these matters we can hardly do better than follow their example. The writer of an interesting letter in the *Daily News* tells us that, on visiting the Camp at Honvault, one of the first things that struck his eye was the theatre of the Camp. This was a well-constructed building, capable of holding five hundred persons, in which performances took place three times a week. Then there are

fencing-rooms, dancing-rooms, grounds arranged for gymnastics, and, above all, very cheap reading-rooms—being "*two or three covered waggons, provided with windows and seats, where the soldiers can read amusing books and newspapers at the price of one franc per month*." Most truly does the writer of the letter to which I have referred add—"A few such travelling waggon-libraries for Aldershot would pay the speculators well, and at the same time prevent much drunkenness and crime."

Everything looks well in the Crimea. If General Pelissier continues to display the same activity and enterprise which he has given proof of during the few weeks he has held the chief command, he will earn for himself a great name in the *fasti* of the Allied armies. The taking of Kertch is a great blow struck at Russian power in the peninsula: their armies are now menaced on three sides: in front, by the main body of the Allies; on the right, by Omer Pacha, at Eupatoria; and on the left, by Sir George Brown, at Kertch and Yenikalé. It is also satisfactory to know that at the same time there is even increased activity on our parts in forwarding both men and stores to the seat of war.

THE "COCK AND BULL" PROPHECY ON THE WAR.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

Sir,—I fear that many antiquaries will be puzzled by the lines quoted by the Rev. Dr. Cumming from an old volume of the fifteenth century, forming a prophecy in which appear as national emblems the words "*Cock*" and "*Bull*." These emblems are not once mentioned in Shakespeare; and both the *Gentleman's Magazine* (1811, p. 219) and Mrs. Markham's "*History of England*" (vol. ii., p. 243) say that the term "*Bull*" cannot be traced beyond Queen Anne's time. The former says that Swift was the originator of the appellation *John Bull*, which, though known before his days, was not in general use; and the latter, more likely to be correct, refers it to Dr. Arbuthnot, the author of that ingenious satire, the "*History of John Bull*." For more upon the subject in question I would refer your readers to a paper of "*Notes on Antiquarian Research*" given in the number of the *Freemasons' Monthly Magazine* (Routledge) for May, 1855.

How the word "*Cock*" arose as an emblem of France is obvious: it stands to reason that it must be as ancient as the Latin tongue, for Gallus may represent either a Gaul or a Cock. Doubtless the lion is the old emblem of England, and this device was placed by Sir John Vanbrugh with a "*Cock*" on Blenheim-house. If a "*Bull*" was our old national emblem it would not have been superseded in this instance by a Lion. I have reason to know that Mr. Albert Way, a very high authority on all matters of antiquity, believes that "*Cock*" and "*Bull*," as symbols of France and England, are as old as the days of Shakespeare; but may there not be on this doubtful point two opinions! Until Dr. Cumming gives the title of this old book, saying whether it is in MS. or print, and where it may be seen, I, and many antiquarian readers who peruse with pleasure your columns, must remain incredulous. The following *sub* of 1683, at Vienna, is amusing:—

Triumphant!
Omnes Christiani arma summat contra Turcam,
Præter Christianissimum.
Omnes filii ecclesiæ bellum contra Turcam parant,
Præter Primogenitum.
Omnia animalia laudant Deum ob partem de Turcis victoriam,
Præter Gallum.

With many apologies for encroaching on your columns,
I beg to remain, Sir, your obedient servant,
May 25, 1855. AN ANTIQUARY.

NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.—On Monday evening Lord Londesborough, as President of the Numismatic Society, received the members of this society at his mansion in Carlton-house-terrace; to meet whom his Lordship invited several distinguished Fellows of the Royal Society and the Society of Antiquaries, and Members of the Royal Academy. The visitors exceeded 300 in number, for whom Lord Londesborough had provided a rich entertainment in his own *recherche* museum, to which were added many valuable contributions. One of the most novel and striking was a selection from the Anglo-Saxon remains very recently discovered by Mr. G. Hillier, in the Isle of Wight. They consist of silver-gilt fibulae, and other ornaments of the female costume; two crystal balls in silver settings, with loops; and a silver-gilt spoon, also found in the graves of women; swords, spears, knives, arrowheads, and umbos of small circular bucklers. The interest of these discoveries is second only to that of the Faussett collection of Saxon antiquities; of the latter, proof engravings were exhibited. Some Roman vessels in glass afforded rare examples of the perfection to which glassmaking had been brought by the Romans. Most of them were brought from the Rhine by Mr. W. Chaffers; but a splendid basin, with ribs on the external surface, technically termed "*pillar moulding*," exhibited by Mr. Joseph Clarke, was found at Takiely, in Essex, in a sepulchral deposit. Among the numismatic attractions, Mr. Bergh's fine Roman large brass coins, a series from Julius to Postumus, and all in the best preservation, took the first place. There was also exhibited a series of coins of the Roman Emperors, in large brass, as well as a remarkable collection of patterns for the English coinage of the age of Charles I. and the Commonwealth. Among the Mediaeval works of art was an enriched ivory *chapele*, or shrine, from Germany, containing figures of the Virgin and Child; and a series of sculptures of the legendary history. There was also a rare display of gorgeous jewellery, and table ornaments and utensils, of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Mr. Morris Moore's newly-discovered painting by Raphael (the subject the contest between Apollo and Marsyas) excited much attention. The original sketch is said to be preserved in Italy. Altogether, the rare character of the articles exhibited, and their illustration of the art of remote periods, rendered this *conversazione* one of the most interesting *réunions* of the season.

THE CITY STATUE OF SIR ROBERT PEEL.—The workmen are now employed preparing a place in the centre of the open space adjoining the north-west corner of the Bank of England, at the junction of Lombard and Princes-street, for the obelisk, which now stands at the west end of Chesham, on the site of which the City statue of Sir Robert Peel, by Behnes, is to be placed.

THE CHILDREN OF THE ROYAL DOMESTICS.—Her Majesty having discovered that a large proportion of the children of the domestic and other servants at Buckingham Palace are very much neglected in the matter of education, has commanded that premises in Palace-street, formerly, should be fitted up as a school. Mr. Charles Dodd, a gentleman of tried ability in his vocation, has been appointed master. The whole of the expenses will be defrayed by her Majesty. The number of scholars of both sexes, at present eligible for admission, is 66. An evening school will also be established for such of the elder children as may be prevented from attending in the daytime.

ROYAL THAMES YACHT-CLUB.

THE first match of the season of this distinguished club took place on Saturday last. The *Prince of Wales* steamer was chartered to convey the members of the club to witness the match, accompanied by several of the yachts belonging to the different clubs: among them Lord Alfred Paget's new yawl, the *Alma*; Mr. Bartlett's new cutter, *Glaucus*; Lord Vane's *Lotus*, the *Bianca*, *Chryseia*, *Ivo*, *Noëlle*, *Irène*, *Minnie*, *Snow Flake*, *Midge*, and *Sea Serpent*.

The day was delightfully fine, alike suited to the spectator and the yachtsman, and left neither anything to desire in the way of recreation.

There were three prizes for competition, amongst the same number of classes, the first two of which were very handsome silver *épergnes*, value £100 and £50, and the third a silver punch-bowl, value £80. The distance intended to be sailed was from Erith to the Nore Light and back, but it was found necessary to shorten it.

The following came to their stations at the starting place:—

FIRST CLASS—Exceeding 35 Tons.				
Station.	Name.	Tons.	Port.	Owner's Name.
1	Marina	62	Covers	W. J. Foster, Esq.
2	Amazon	41	London	Alfred J. Young, Esq.
3	Avalon	35	London	James Goodson, Esq.
4	Napoleon	42	London	Harrison Clifton, Esq.
5	Sophia	35	London	Thos. Groves, Junr., Esq.
SECOND CLASS—Exceeding 25 Tons and not exceeding 35.				
1	Phantom	27	London	Samuel Lane, Esq.
2	Thought	29	London	George Cook, Esq.
THIRD CLASS—Exceeding 10 Tons and not exceeding 25.				
1	Cormorant	12	London	Joseph Faneourt, Esq.
2	Vampire	15	Southampton	C. Wheeler, Junr., Esq.

There was a fine whole-sail breeze from the eastward, and, consequently, heavy work to do from the moment of starting to that of rounding, save only that of laying through about two reaches.

At a little before noon preparations were made for the start, which was effected at 12h. 3m. 10s. It was an excellent one, all the vessels being away well together. The *Napoleon* sprang her mast early in the race. The *Sophia* and *Avalon* deserve the praise of first having their topmasts set. The *Marina* was first of her class with the lead when they fairly got under way, followed by the *Amazon*—but the former appeared to be able to carry more cloth than she had upon her. Like the *Avalon*, she is very stiff.

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FARMERS' CLUBS.

the two Fencils painters, engravers, architects, engineers, and draughtsmen of the greatest eminence in their several professions, and whose testimonials have been published in detail. The following are the names of the persons who have been selected:—
 Charles Barry, Esq., R.A.
 C. L. Eastlake, Esq., P.R.S.
 R. H. Brunel, Esq., F.R.S.
 Clarkson Stanfield, Esq., R.A.
 W. H. Stirling, Esq., F.R.S.
 B. Trout, Esq., F.S.A.
 Philip Hardwick, Esq., R.A.
 Each Person is stamped "Warranted Pure Cumberland Lead."

Copley Fielding, Esq., P.W.C.
 W. Wron, Esq., R.A.
 David Roberts, Esq., R.A.
 J. T. Willmore, Esq., A.R.A.
 H. C. Wilson, Esq., Director, Government School of Design.

(Continued from page 534.)

All eyes were turned to the two cracks, which have been so often engaged in honourable emulation—the *Phantom* and the *Thought*. There were some doubts expressed by those on board the steamer as to which got the lead, but it was evident that, although there was no want of alacrity on the part of the former, the latter went away while the *Phantom* was reaching over to the northward. Scarcely half a dozen boards had been made, when the *Phantom* weathered the *Thought*, and became the leading boat of the whole fleet. Some remarkably pretty sailing, reflecting the greatest credit upon all engaged, succeeded. The *Thought*, *Amazon*, and *Marina*, were close together, tack upon tack. In the early portion of the race the *Cormorant* drew away slightly, but was soon overpowered by her splendid rival. In Northfleet Hope the *Phantom* was full half a mile ahead; next was the *Amazon*, then the *Thought*, *Marina*, and *Vampire*; but shortly after this the *Marina* went to windward of the others into the second place, and the *Amazon* gave place to the *Thought*. The *Prince of Wales* arrived at the Chapmanhead at a little after three, when a gun was fired for the third class to round a boat there, and immediately afterwards the *Vampire* finished her downward course *solus*. The tide at this time had run out, and with the breeze so straight a dead noser, that it was considered unnecessary to prolong the exertions of the crews against wind and tide, and the club steamer was anchored two miles above Southend-pier for the yachts to round, which they did, viz.:—

Phantom	..	..	..	h. m. s.	
Marina	..	..	..	3 29 15	
Thought	..	..	..	3 35 0	
Amazon	..	..	..	3 39 50	
Avalon	..	..	..	3 40 0	
Sophia	..	..	..	3 43 0	

Running sails were now substituted for those which had been used in beating down, and soon the *Phantom* was lost in the cloud of canvas accompanying the race. The *Amazon* carried away her topmast below Gravesend, or, it was thought, might have shown a better figure in the race. The conclusion was as follows:—

Vampire	..	..	..	h. m. s.	
Phantom	..	..	..	5 33 0	
Marina	..	..	..	5 41 0	
Thought	..	..	..	5 43 30	
Avalon	..	..	..	5 50 10	
Amazon	..	..	..	6 0 0	
Sophia	..	..	..	6 3 45	

The plate was accordingly awarded by Lord Alfred Paget: Mr. S. Lane receiving the £100 prize; Mr. W. J. Foster, the £50 prize; and Mr. C. Wheeler, jun., the £30 prize.

The presentations having taken place with the accustomed congratulations and honours, the club steamer returned to Blackwall and London in good time. The band of the Royal Horse Guards (Blue) was in attendance during the day, and played several of the most popular airs in their usual excellent style. A good cold collation was supplied by Mr. Watts; and the whole affair gave the greatest satisfaction.

PARIS FASHIONS FOR JUNE.

THE Chantilly Races, as usual, drew together all that Paris can boast of in the way of elegance and beauty. The greater number of bonnets at the races of Friday (last week) were of *paille de Riz*, or *d'Italie*, with *feuillages d'eau*, drooping on the neck. Flounced robes, which we imagined to be losing favour, are, on the contrary, almost



ROYAL THAMES YACHT-CLUB.—THE “PHANTOM” AND “MARINA”—CLOSE OF THE MATCH.

exclusively worn, with patterns at the bottoms of the flounces; the stripes are still worn lengthwise, and widening and narrowing on nearing the upper part of the flounce.

Among the most remarkable toilets, we observed a robe of grey pearl taffetas, with five flounces, bordered with fringe gaufrés. Upon the shoulders a Cashmere shawl, with a white ground, and rather low border of *rosaces* entwined with infinite taste; bonnet of *paille d'Italie*, set off with bunches of black grapes and tufts of wild roses; the curtain of white taffetas, and still very long.

We observed that the basquines were worn very long, and almost invariably trimmed at the bottom, with two flounces placed one above the other, and meeting those of the robe, even when there are but three on the skirt. We doubt, however, as to whether the fashion will last long for summer toilets, which require to be lighter. Next we noticed a robe of *moiré antique bleu Louise à basques*, trimmed with three rows of fringe; the corsage somewhat open in front, showing a collar of Brussels lace, coming up to the neck, and forming a sort of breastplate beneath. The *attachés* of the same stuff as the robe, and also trimmed with fringe. The skirt was without flounces. Bonnet of *paille d'Italie*, with tufts of white feathers upon the *jasse*, and one beneath with roses, mingled with the blonde. India Cashmere shawls, with black ground and golden embroidery.

The Empress wore a short time since, at the Horticultural Exhibition in the Champs Elysées, a robe of ash-grey taffetas, with three radiating flounces, white and pearl grey; there were also three flounces alternating with three other flounces of black Chantilly lace; the corsage of the robe was ornamented with the same flounces and laces. The bonnet was of black *Gros des Indes* covered with lace, mingled with flowers and *jaisnoir*; a large Cashmere shawl trimmed with deep black lace, crowned with a row of *fringe à clochettes*. This toilet was worn as Court mourning.

Among the Chantilly toilets we noticed a robe of Scotch taffetas, white, green, and black; the skirt had three flounces trimmed with a fringe *tom poncé*, of the same shades. The corsage, high

and close, was à *basques* very long, and à *bretelles*, the ends hanging and crossed before and behind; mantelet of black crape, *ruche* of ribbons. A rose-coloured bonnet completed this simple toilet.

We hope ere long to describe the new summer stuffs, which, however, up to the present time, have not appeared. We have seen some robes and muslins of light shades, with silken draperies of brighter colours.

The Illustrations.—Lyons poplin robe, with stripes of black satin, and with three flounces; sleeves also trimmed with three flounces of a similar pattern, but closer. *Corsage à basques*, trimmed in front with straps of lozenge-pattern galoon of the same shade as the robe and the stripes. Sleeves, English lace; cap trimmed to correspond, with flowers, and ends of ribbons of black velvet. Bonnet of *paille d'Italie*, flat crown, and flowers trailed with foliage. Taffetas mantelet, with trimmings of gimp, separated by a little *ruche*; first row of fringe mounted on a square, and separated so as to form a sort of acorn, this first row falling upon the head of a second square which bears the last fringe.

Mantelet Irrede of black taffetas, trimmed with a splendid Chantilly lace, beneath which hangs Oriental lace: an ornament of *passementerie* is also placed above the lace, upon the cuffs and front of the mantelet.



PARIS FASHIONS FOR JUNE.



NEAR SEBASTOPOL.—THE MIDDLE OR "WHITE HOUSE" RAVINE.—(SEE PAGE 540.)

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS
TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, MAY 31.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barom. at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading. Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
May 25	29.780	81.0	44.0	6.6	80	S.E.	0.0
" 26	29.802	83.0	49.3	6.4	75	E.	0.00
" 27	29.718	75.5	59.5	6.2	88	N.N.E.	0.11
" 28	29.770	56.6	46.8	50.8	95	N.	0.03
" 29	29.854	57.2	41.2	46.3	84	N.	0.00
" 30	29.880	53.2	39.0	43.8	91	N.	0.14
" 31	29.890	48.3	40.1	43.9	100	N.	0.70

NOTE.—The sign + denotes above the average and the sign — below the average.

The reading of the barometer has varied but little during the week. The highest reading was 29.88 inches, on the 30th; and the lowest 29.44 inches, on the 31st. The mean for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 29.756 inches.

The mean daily temperatures during the first part of the week were 7.6° in excess, and during the latter half were 9.8° in defect. The range during the week was 21.7°.

The mean temperature of the week was 53.2°, being 2½° below the average value.

The range of temperature during the week was 44°, being the difference between the highest readings on the 26th (83°) and the lowest on the 30th (39°).

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 20.1°. The greatest was 37°, on the 25th; and the least, 8.2°, on the 31st.

Rain fell almost continuously on Thursday, to the depth of 0.7 inches, and during the week to the depth of an inch nearly.

The weather during the first three days of the week was fine, and the sky tolerably free from cloud; the rest of the week was dull and showery, and the sky almost overcast.

For the month of May the mean reading of the barometer at the level of the sea was 29.861 inches; and the range 0.770 inches. The mean of all the highest readings of the thermometer by day was 69.6°, and of all the lowest by night was 39.7°; the mean daily range of temperature during the month was therefore 29.9°. The highest reading during the month was 83°, on the 26th; and the lowest, 26.2°, on the 3rd; the range of temperature during the month was therefore 56.8°. The mean temperature of the month was 48.6°, being 4.6° below the average value. The mean temperature of evaporation for the month was 46.3°. The mean temperature of the dew point was 43.2°. The mean degree of humidity was 84 (comp. hte saturation being represented by 100). And the fall of rain for the month was nearly two inches.

Lewisham, June 1, 1855.

JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—Within the week ending May 26 the births of 855 boys and 767 girls, in all 1622 children, were registered within the metropolitan districts. The average number for the 21st week of the year, for the previous ten years, was 1399. The number of deaths registered within the same interval of time and space were 576 under twenty years of age; 154 at twenty and under forty; 206 at forty and less than sixty; 199 at sixty and under eighty; and 35 at ages exceeding eighty years: in all 1187 deaths—600 were males, and 587 females. The average number of deaths for this week, from ten years' records, and increased proportionately to the increase of population, is 1016. It appears, therefore, that 141 persons died last week more than would have died according to the ordinary mortality in the 21st week of the year. There is no decrease in the high rate of mortality which has lately prevailed in London, and which seems to be mostly owing to the long continuance of cold weather, accompanied with the north and east winds.

THE BRITISH BENEFICENT INSTITUTION.—The sixth annual festival of this institution was celebrated on Wednesday at the London Tavern; His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge was in the chair. The amount collected was about £850.

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM.—A numerous meeting was held on Tuesday night at the Horns Tavern, Kennington, with the view of establishing a branch association for the purpose of co-operating with the Central Reform Association. Mr. Ellington occupied the chair, and the meeting was addressed by that gentleman, Mr. Murrough, M.P., Mr. Webber, and others.

ROYAL WESTMINSTER OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL, CHANCING-CROSS.—The performances at the Haymarket Theatre on Friday next, the 8th inst., are announced for the sole benefit of the above excellent charity. The bill includes the play of "As You Like It," with Miss Helen Faucit as Rosalind; and Mr. Barry Sullivan as Jaques; to be followed by the new farce of "Only a Halfpenny," a ballet, and the "Two Bonny Castles." With such attractions, the result will, doubtless, be highly beneficial to the funds of the Ophthalmic Institution, which is much in need of pecuniary assistance.

MAINE LIQUOR LAW.—On Monday night a public meeting, respectfully attended, was held at St. Martin's-hall, convened by the "United Kingdom Alliance for the Total Suppression of the Traffic in Intoxicating Liquors throughout the United Kingdom," in aid of their movement. Alderman Sir R. Carden occupied the chair. The Rev. J. Mansom, the Rev. Jabez Burns, D.D., and other gentlemen, having addressed the meeting, a resolution in furtherance of the object of the meeting was adopted, and also a petition to both Houses of Parliament, praying for the enactment of a law absolutely prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors in this country. On Wednesday night the "Alliance" held a public meeting in Exeter-hall, the body of which was well filled, in aid of their movement. Sir Walter C. Trevelyan occupied the chair; and, with the Earl of Harrington, Alderman Harrison (of Wakefield), and Sir R. W. Carden, addressed the meeting in support of the principles of the association. A resolution, declaring "that the traffic in intoxicating liquors, as common beverages, is inimical to the true interests of individuals, and destructive of the order and welfare of society, and ought therefore to be prohibited," was carried by a large majority, in preference to an amendment moved by Mr. Foster declaring the attempt to enforce temperance by prohibitory enactments to be unwise, and an unjust interference with sacred individual liberties.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—On Tuesday, Mr. Simpson, as president of the institution, gave his annual *conversazione* in Great George-street. Notwithstanding the powerful competition of the French Exposition, Mr. Charles Manby, the indefatigable secretary, succeeded admirably in assembling a large collection of mechanical novelties of the most striking character; and a very interesting collection of paintings and sculpture—among them Mr. Lucas's portraits of the engineers at the raising of the Britannia tube, and a fine marble bust of Professor Faraday, by Noble. The theatre of the institution was newly arranged for the occasion; the working models being placed upon successive stages, or wide steps, rising from the area. The ventilation was also more successfully accomplished than in any former year. Among the more attractive novelties was an adaptation of Fourcault's method of illustrating the rotation of the earth. A working set of Mather's earth-boring machines, and the American invention of Dr. Brown were exhibited; as were also Mr. William Smith's new arrangement for laying down submarine telegraphs, Siemens's regenerative steam-engine, Reid's glass balance, Burleigh's patent switch, Hansen's water-meter, How's cutter for levelling bars, Symon's magnetic apparatus, the Atlantic telegraph plan, M. Adam's numbering-machine, Colonel Colt's inventions, a large working model of a double basin, Berdan's quartz-crushing machine as now arranged for Australia, and working successfully; Berthon's patent collapsing life-boat, Clifford's plan for unlash and lowering ships' boats, Ogilby and Moore's invention for iron launches in compartments of the West African coast, Goddard's patent duplex gas-burner, Hoare's engineer's slide-rule, Norton's distance-indicator, How's saline-meter; Swiss drawing instruments, remarkable for their beautiful workmanship and economy of price, exhibited by Mr. Barlow, &c. The company was extremely numerous throughout the evening, and included the representatives of science, art, and literature; and the *conversazione* was one of the most brilliant meetings of the institution.

THE SUNDAY TRADING BILL.—A meeting of the inhabitants of the parish of St. Clement Danes was held in the Vestry-hall, Pickett-street, on Wednesday evening, for the purpose of taking into consideration the bill now before Parliament for the suppression of Sunday trading; Mr. Churchwarden Child in the chair. Mr. Gannon, after remarking upon the prevalence of Sunday trading in the parish, which, he observed, never would be abated until the closing of shops was rendered compulsory, moved the following resolution:—"That this meeting is of opinion that the bill now before Parliament for the suppression of unnecessary Sunday trading is calculated to prevent to a great extent the employment of persons engaged in shops and otherwise on the Sunday, and thereby to secure to them opportunities for both mental and bodily relaxation, and will, if passed into a law, contribute greatly to the promotion of morality and social order throughout the metropolis." Mr. Tomlinson seconded the resolution. Mr. Huggett, while he supported the bill, would very much like to see the British Museum and the Crystal Palace open on the Sunday. Mr. Oliphant approved of what had fallen from the last speaker, and moved the following amendment:—"That this meeting expresses its satisfaction that a bill has been introduced into Parliament to prevent trading on Sunday within the metropolitan police district; and is of opinion that such legislation is calculated to improve the moral, social, and religious condition of the people." The amendment was negatived by 40 votes to 26. An amendment deprecating legislative interference was also lost. The original motion was agreed to; and, after adopting a petition to Parliament, the proceedings terminated.

SHIPWRECKED MARINERS' SOCIETY.—The sixteenth annual meeting of this benevolent institution was held at Willis's Rooms on Wednesday. The Right Hon. Lord Henry Cholmondeley, M.P., who presided, expressed his warm attachment to the society, and avowed his assurance that the more it was known throughout the length and breadth of the land, the more universally it would be appreciated. The report stated that during the first three months of the past eventful year the storms that swept the coasts of the United Kingdom were truly appalling, and exceeded in violence any that had been known in the memory of man, and that the consequent destruction among the shipping was equally unprecedented. During that short period 620 vessels were wrecked, stranded, or foundered, with the loss of upwards of 1000 lives! and the whole coast, especially the east, presented a scene of excitement beyond description. The awful gales in the Black Sea had also been the occasion of fearfully swelling the list of the recipients of the charity, and the total number of ships wrecked reported at Lloyd's had been multiplied to the large number of 1450, with the loss of upwards of 3000 lives; 987 of which, with 1549 lives, appear by the Admiralty register of shipwrecks to have been lost on the shores and in the seas of the United Kingdom. Relief had been afforded to 3546 shipwrecked persons, including mariners and fishermen, subscribers, to assist in replacing their clothes and boats; and to 2306 widows, orphans, and aged parents; making together a total of 6352 persons relieved between the 1st January and 31st December. The number of mariners and fishermen subscribing to the society from 25th Oct. to 31st Dec. now exceeded 40,000; while 2801 vessels carried its distinguishing flag. The society had during the past year handed over all its life-boat establishments to the Royal National Life-boat Institution, as they hoped thereby that the work would be better carried out by one institution in London devoted to the object, and working energetically under the patronage of the Government; and it had been agreed that the work of encouraging exertions to save life on the high seas or coasts of our Colonies should be carried on by the Shipwrecked Mariners' Society, which during the past year had awarded fourteen silver medals and £93 in pecuniary rewards for heroic exertions in saving life, making a total of five gold, forty silver medals, and £562 10s. given since 1851, for assisting at the saving of 1069 lives.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.—The annual dinner of the society was held at Willis's Rooms on Monday, when the chair was taken by Sir Roderick I. Murchison, in the absence of the Earl of Ellesmere, the retiring President, and of Admiral Keelley, the President Elect, both of whom were unhappily unwell. Upwards of a hundred of the members and their friends supported the chair, among whom were several distinguished travellers and men of science. The toast of "The Army and Navy," coupled with Admiral Sir G. Baeck and General Sir G. Pollock, elicited some felicitous observations from the Chairman and respondents on the recent amalgamation of the Indian army with the line, on the successful combination of the navy and army in the expedition to Kertch, and on the bravery and endurance displayed throughout the Crimean campaign. Lord Overstone, in an able speech, proposed "The Geographers who have this day been honoured with rewards." His Lordship dwelt at some length on the influence of geographical discovery and research in promoting commerce, civilisation, and enlightenment, in developing the natural resources of the earth, and rendering them contributory to human welfare. Mr. Anderson, in responding, expressed his gratitude for the recognition with which his labours in Africa had that day been honoured, and assured the company that the appreciation of the society offered him the greatest encouragement for future efforts. Lord Stanley proposed "The Health of the Chairman, Sir Roderick I. Murchison, past president, and now vice-president of the society, and Director-General of the Geological Survey and School of Mines." His Lordship gave a lucid sketch of the active life of this eminent *servant*. Commencing with Sir Roderick's early career under Wellington in the Peninsula, he proceeded to dilate upon those masterly and original researches which had resulted in the development of the "Silurian System." His Lordship also adverted to Sir Roderick's personal investigations over a large part of the continent of Europe, and to other labours embodied in his published works. Finally, the society and the public were congratulated on the recognition of these services, by the recent appointment of the chairman to the responsible office of Director-General of the Geological Survey, which his Lordship declared to be one, at all events, of the right man being put in the right place. Sir Roderick Murchison, in reply, paid a tribute to the memory of his predecessor, the late Sir Henry de la Beche, who had rendered his task comparatively light, by the admirable state in which he had left his charge; and the highly efficient staff engaged in the various operations of the survey. "The Arctic Voyagers"—Captain Kellett, Captain McClure, and Dr. Rae—who were present, responded in a very appropriate manner to the compliments paid to them.

LOSS OF LIFE AT SOUTH LAMBETH WATERWORKS.—Shortly before eight o'clock, on Wednesday, an appalling accident took place at the reservoirs of the South Lambeth Waterworks, adjoining the old House of Correction on Brixton-hill. The reservoirs, four in number, occupy an area of nearly four acres, and are some 22 feet in depth, 700 feet long, and 200 feet broad, the water being supplied by pipes of large dimensions from Thames Ditton. While about thirty men were engaged striking the centres from the completed arches, removing the scaffolding, &c., almost without any warning, about twelve or fourteen of the arches gave way and fell to the bottom of the reservoir with a loud crash, burying beneath them the men who were at work; some twenty labourers, who were levelling the earth outside on the top of the reservoir, also falling with the mass. The shock occasioned by the fall alarmed the whole neighbourhood; and the most prompt measures were taken to extricate the sufferers. Although nearly 200 labourers were engaged in the task, it was eleven o'clock before the whole of the parties were got out. Four of them, unhappily, had been crushed to death; seven others were found to be severely injured, and were at once sent to Guy's Hospital.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF CHEMISTRY.—At a meeting of the special committee appointed by the College of Chemistry to close its affairs, on account of its transfer to the department of Science and Art at the Board of Trade, Lord Ashburton presented a testimonial from the Council to Dr. Hoffman, and also a piece of plate, as a personal testimonial from some of Dr. Hoffman's friends.

ART-CONTRIBUTIONS.—BURLINGTON-HOUSE, PICCADILLY.—Within the last few days the committee have paid £1000 as a further instalment to the Patriotic Fund—making in all £3250. On Saturday last the committee were favoured with the gratuitous services of the band of the Scots Fusiliers, and upwards of 1200 persons paid for admission. The "New Contribution Room," owing to some very interesting drawings which it contains, proves very attractive. The association have been kindly promised the gratuitous services of the bands of the Blues on the 9th inst., and of the 2nd Life Guards on the 12th.

CITY BUSINESS ON SATURDAYS.—The movement in favour of terminating business hours on Saturdays at two o'clock, continues to meet with additional supporters, and promises finally to include every class of traders. On Tuesday last it definitely received the sanction of the Stock Exchange, the committee, in accordance with the wishes of the members, having resolved last week, that from and after Saturday, the 16th June, business shall officially terminate at one o'clock, and the house be peremptorily closed at two o'clock (being two hours earlier than on other days of the week). A notice to this effect was posted on the Stock Exchange on Tuesday afternoon. With the exception of the establishments of the banking interest, there are now no large houses which have not adopted the practice of curtailing the hours of business at the close of the week. Not that there is any personal objection on the part of either the private or the joint-stock banks to close their houses at an earlier hour on Saturday than they now do. Their inability to comply with the wish so generally expressed on the subject arises from the circumstance that on that day so many more payments have to be made than on any other day in the week.

AUSTRALASIAN PACIFIC MAIL STEAM COMPANY.—A special meeting of the Australasian Pacific Mail Steam Company took place on Tuesday, to receive a report on a proposed scale of compensation to the retiring officers. The amount recommended for distribution is £2362, which, by some of the shareholders, is considered excessive; but an amendment to reduce it to £1200 was rejected by a large majority.

AN EXPLOSIVE PARCEL.—Pietro Felio, an Italian, described as a confectioner, of 83, Fleet-street, was charged at Guildhall, on Wednesday, with sending through the post an explosive parcel to Natale Ferrario, a confectioner, of 103, Holborn-hill. The parcel consisted of a wooden case about six inches long and one inch square, filled with gunpowder, and having, secured by string at either end, like a Waterloo cracker, and so attached to paperous matches and sand-paper in the box, as to insure the instant ignition of the powder and matches upon drawing either of the ribbons. Fortunately, however, the parcel was carefully taken to pieces without any accident. N. de Ferrario said the direction on the case was in the handwriting of the prisoner. He had frequently seen the prisoner write. A partnership between them had been settled on the 26th of January last, since which time he had frequently worked out in a friendly way with the prisoner. Pietro, who denied the charge, was committed for trial, but intended to bail.

A TOO PARTICULAR REGISTRAR.—On Monday a labouring man, who a few days previously had buried his aged father, presented himself before the registrar of births and deaths at Overbury, and requested the officer to register the death of his mother also. Preparations being made for complying with his request, he was asked at what hour her decease took place. "Oh," replied the affectionate son, "her heart dead yit, but her soon will be, so I thought as how you might as well put it down at wunst, for I a' lost half a day already over it, and I can't hafford to lose my time a coming here aghain." On being told that his request could not be complied with, he strode off with a dissatisfied air, muttering to himself that the registrar was "too pertickler by hawf."—*Worcester Chronicle.*

THE COURT.

The Whitsun holidays have been passed in comparative retirement by the Court at Osborne. On Saturday last the Queen and Prince, accompanied by Prince Alfred, the Princess Hohenlohe, Princess Adelaide, and Princess Feodore, went to Parkhurst Barracks, where her Majesty inspected the depot battalion, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Jeffreys.

On Sunday her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, and the Princess Royal, the Duchess of Kent, the Princess Hohenlohe, Princess Adelaide, and Princess Feodore, attended Divine service at the parish church at Whippingham. The Rev. George Prothero officiated.

On Monday her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, attended by the Marchioness of Ely, the Hon. Mary Seymour, Major-General Buckley, and Captain Du Plat, embarked in the *Fairy* for Portsmouth. The Queen and Prince, on arriving in the harbour, went on board the *Cormorant*, transport screw-steamer, and inspected the arrangements for conveying the detachment of 17th Lancers, under orders to sail for the Crimea in the evening. The Queen and Prince afterwards went on board the new Royal yacht, and returned to Osborne about half-past six o'clock.

On Tuesday the Duchess of Kent took leave of her Majesty, and left Osborne for London. In the afternoon the Queen, accompanied by the Princess Hohenlohe, drove to Hyde. Prince Albert embarked in the Royal yacht *Fairy*, and went to see the new works constructing at Scone Point.

On Wednesday the Queen and the Prince walked in the grounds. The Hon. Mary Seymour has succeeded the Hon. Beatrice Byng as Maid of Honour in Waiting.

FASHIONABLE ENTERTAINMENTS.

The Countess Bernstorff gave a delightful juvenile ball, on Saturday afternoon, at the residence of the Prussian Legation, on Carlton-house-terrace. The *reunion* was honoured with the presence of their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary, and their Royal Highnesses the Grand Duchess Hereditary of Mecklenburg-Strelitz and Prince Adolph of Mecklenburg-Strelitz. The young Prince Adolph appeared in the Highland costume.

The Countess Colloredo gave a magnificent ball on Wednesday evening, at the residence of the Austrian Legation, Chandos-house. The Countess was honoured with a brilliant attendance. Several members of the Royal family and nearly 500 of the most distinguished representatives of the fashionable world were present.

The Duchess of Beaufort gave a grand ball on Tuesday night, at the family mansion in Grosvenor-square. His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge honoured the *reunion* with his presence.

The Countess of Derby had an assembly on Thursday evening, at the family mansion in St. James's-square. The party was most numerous attended.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, attended by Lady Anna Maria Dawson and Sir George Couper, went to Frogmore on Wednesday, and returned to her residence, Clarence-house, St. James's, in the afternoon.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge dined with the Third Guards Club, at Grillon's Hotel, on Monday last.

THE QUEEN AND THE TWO GALLANT SAILORS.—At the anniversary dinner of the British Beneficent Institution, on Wednesday last, General Sir James Macdonnell—the hero of Hongkong—related, in returning thanks for the Army, the following incident that occurred during the presentation of the Crimean medals by her Majesty:—"When (said the veteran) that gallant officer, Sir Thomas Troubridge, was wheeled to the dais on which her Majesty stood, her Majesty, in presenting him with the medal which he had so dearly won, declared to him that from that moment for the rest of his life he was her Aide-de-Camp. In making that declaration her Majesty expressed her deep commiseration for the misfortunes of that gallant man by dropping a silent tear—a tear which ought to be encased in glass and placed in our national museum (immense cheering). I may be permitted to mention another incident. When one of our gallant and glorious British tars approached to receive his reward, the medal by some accident dropped to the ground. It was picked up and presented to him by the Minister-at-War, on which the gallant tarsaid he would much sooner have received it from the hands of the Queen. Her Majesty immediately desired it to be replaced on the dais, and then took it up and presented it to the gallant fellow, whose feelings may be better imagined than described at this mark of her Majesty's favour."

THE NEW CHAPEL just erected for CONGREGATIONAL DISSENTERS, at Phillimore-terrace, Kensington—Rev. J. Stoughton, Pastor—was opened on Wednesday last, when sermons were preached by the Rev. T. Barney and the Hon. and Rev. B. W. Noel, for very full audiences. Between the services about 300 ministers and friends sat down to an elegant collation laid out in a tent in the grounds of Mr. Charles Bennett, Woolthorpe Lodge, named from the birthplace of Sir Isaac Newton, who resided at Kensington. Suitable speeches on the occasion were made by Mr. T. Chambers, M.P., Mr. Apsley Pellatt, M.P., Dr. Morrison, Rev. T. Stratton, &c. The collections made amounted to £263. The chapel is a fine architectural composition in Roman-Corinthian, chiefly from the Portico of the Pantheon at Rome. The exterior is stone. Accommodation is provided for 1200 adults. The architect is Mr. A. Trimen. This chapel exhibits one of the greatest efforts yet attempted in London in connection with the Dissenters, whether having regard to the architectural design, to the general dimensions, or to the materials employed in its construction. The entire cost, including the purchase of ground and organ, is £7000.

THE SEA OF AZOFF.—Field-Marshal Count de Lacy, in his autobiography, records, 1736—"The 3rd of August, I marched, conformably to orders I had from his Majesty, from Azoff to Perekop, with 5000 infantry, 500 dragons, 600 Cossacks, and 2000 Calmucks. I passed by Martza Danza, Sagiana, the river Salisch, Aslambeck, south side, the river Mehur, where I found the Cossacks coming from Perekop, with the news that Munich, wanting provisions and forage, and the greater part of his troops sick for want of regular supplies of bread and water, had retired from Perekop towards Russia. Munich passed the whole of the campaign of 1736 in taking and restoring the Crimea (Perekop), and in losing half his army, which on first entering it amounted to 54,000 men. The amount of the killed did not exceed 2000. He left me to winter in the Ukraine, in command of both armies, while he went to St. Petersburg." The Prince de Ligny, in his memoirs, refers to another daring exploit of the same famous Field-Marshal:—"In the next year (1757) it was necessary the campaign should be opened with élat, an expedition to the Crimea being quite the fashion at Court. This famous man (Lacy) was, therefore, fixed on to take the sole command. * * * * * H. interdicted march—his passage across the arm of the sea near Arabat, partly on cork bridges, partly by fording, partly by swimming, are well known, and will never be forgotten. He was charged with the operations in the Crimea; the enemy in possession of all the surrounding points of strength and seas; yet he penetrated it without losing a man, and it ought to be repeated here: he had remarked that the excessive heats dried up a part of the Sea of Azoff, and that with the wind in the west the waves are so effectually driven back that, if advantage be taken of the instant, a passage may be effected dry-footed. He did so with 10,000 men. He turned Perekop, which he took 'in reverse,' blew up the 'impregnable fortifications,' flouted the famous lines, defeated the Tatars in a pitched battle, and betook himself to winter quarters in the Ukraine, as was usual. This was his second conquest of the Crimea without passing by Perekop."

THE REGULAR OPERATION OF WHAT SEEMS CHANCE.—At the meeting of the Institute of Actuaries, on Monday evening last, Dr. Guy read a paper "On the Analogy existing between the aggregate effects of the operations of the Human Will and the Results commonly attributed to Chance." The author commenced his essay by quoting the well-known sentiment of M. Quetelet:—"It must be confessed that, distressing as the truth at first appears, if we submit to a well-followed-out series of observations in the physical world and the social system, it would be difficult to decide in respect to which of the two the acting causes produce their effects with most regularity." Though he (Dr. Guy) admitted the justice of the sentiment, he did not participate in the feeling of distress which M. Quetelet expresses. He was quite prepared to find that the reproduction, year by year, of nearly the same figures, as the ultimate expressions of the working of the will in a number of persons, bore considerable analogy to the figures which embody the proportionate annual number of births and deaths in the same country, or the annual success of some gambling speculation. He thought that the numbers which express the aggregate or ultimate results of the constant operation of a number of causes of variable and inappreciable intensity might be expected to present many analogies and coincidences, though the causes were ever so different in their nature, and though the events or actions in which they issue were termed physical in one case and moral in another. The author went on to observe that writers on the doctrine of probabilities had taken the analogy between the results ordinarily attributed to chance, and results brought about by physical or moral causes, too much for granted, and it was time that the assumption should be put to the test of experiment. The author then proceeded to describe the experiments which he had performed. He abstracted from the books of King's College Hospital the attendances of men and women by groups of twenty-five up to 1000 facts, and also the proportion of cases of pulmonary consumption to cases of all other diseases up to 5000 facts. Then assuming that the proportions for the 1000 and 5000 facts respectively were the true proportions, he proceeded to substitute balls of different colours for the men and women, and for the cases of consumption and of other diseases. These balls he drew out from a bag blindfold by 25 at a time, until all of them were drawn out, and noted down the results. These results, embodied in several tables, were placed side by side with the figures obtained from the hospital books, and showed a degree of resemblance which, in the opinion of the author, fully justified the theory which had given rise to his experiments.

Messrs. Maillefert and Raasloff, employed by the Canadian Government to remove the obstructions in the St. Lawrence, so that the river shall be navigable from Prescott to the head of the Lachine Canal for vessels drawing ten feet of water, report that the cost of the work will be £180,000.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, June 3.—Trinity Sunday.
MONDAY, 4.—Kingdom of the Netherlands divided, 1831.
TUESDAY, 5.—St. Boniface.
WEDNESDAY, 6.—Weler died, 1826.
THURSDAY, 7.—Corpus Christi.
FRIDAY, 8.—Astley's Theatre burnt, 1841.
SATURDAY, 9.—Lilly the Astrologer died, 1681.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 9.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
3 37	4 0	4 24	4 48	5 12	5 36	6 0

LOVE, the FIRST DRAMATIC VENTRILOQUIST of Europe, at the UPRIGHT HALL, 69, Quadrant, Regent-street. Every Evening at Eight o'clock, except Saturday; Saturday at Three. Piano, Miss Julia Warman.

CATERHAM RAILWAY COMPANY.—Notice is hereby given that the next ORDINARY MEETING of the Shareholders of the Caterham Railway Company will be held at the office of the Company, Hibernia-chambers, on MONDAY, the 25th day of JUNE next, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon precisely. J. STRETCH, Secretary. Hibernia-chambers, London-bridge, May 30th, 1855.

DAIRY MANAGEMENT.—See No. 5, FARMER'S CLUB.—AGRICULTURAL MAGAZINE. Sixpence post-free.—G. T. THOMSON, 10, Upper Thames-street; and all Booksellers.

WESTBOURNE COLLEGE, Bayswater-road, Hyde-park. Under the patronage of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishops of London (Visitor), Winchester, and Lincoln, Sir James Stirling, K.C.B., President, &c., &c. The Half Term will commence on WEDNESDAY, 4th JUNE. Proprietors may be obtained on application. Fees: Six, Seven, or Eight guineas a Term; Entrance-fee, Two guineas; Stationery, One guinea a year. C. MACKENZIE, A.M., Principal.

LONDON HOMOEOPATHIC HOSPITAL, 32, Golden-square. Patroness—H. R. H. the Duchess of Cambridge. Vice-Patron—The Duke of Beaufort. President—The Right Honourable the Earl of Wilton. Chairman—The Right Honourable Lord Robert Grosvenor, M.P. A GENERAL MEETING in aid of the Funds of this Hospital will be held at WILLIS'S ROOMS, King-street, St. James's, on WEDNESDAY, 6th JUNE, 1855, at Six o'clock, p.m., the Right Hon. Lord Robert Grosvenor, M.P., in the chair. Several gentlemen are expected to attend and address the Meeting.

INDIA, CHINA, AUSTRALIA, and CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—W. O. YOUNG will dispatch the following fast-sailing A 1 Clipper SHIPS at the dates named as under:—

Ships.	Tons.	Commanders.	Destinations.	Docks.	To Sail
Borlase ..	421	W. Good ..	Calcutta ..	London ..	June 15
Wm. Miles ..	634	J. Creighton ..	Calcutta ..	Liverpool ..	June 15
Wm. Worley ..	890	J. Simpson ..	Bombay ..	E. India ..	June 15
Planet ..	442	W. P. Buckham ..	Hong-Kong & Shanghai ..	London ..	June 16
Dolphin ..	388	G. Murray ..	Hong-Kong & Whampoa ..	W. India ..	June 17
Balmoral ..	357	A. Clarke ..	Shanghai ..	London ..	June 20
Kensington ..	900	W. King ..	Port Phillip ..	London ..	June 18
Maid of Julia ..	665	J. Merchant ..	Sydney ..	London ..	July 11
Asclepi ..	504	Richard Hill ..	Shanghai ..	London ..	June 5
Centurion ..	156	W. Edwards ..	Sydney ..	London ..	June 29
Sea Queen ..	415	W. Rowe ..	Adelaide ..	St. Kath. ..	June 5
Richampton ..	469	Robert Bradshaw ..	Cape of Good Hope ..	London ..	June 6
Metec ..	370	J. Brodie ..	Cape of Good Hope ..	London ..	June 15
Corn Gull ..	362	E. Robinson ..	Cape of Good Hope ..	London ..	June 25
Edith ..	319	T. B. Harry ..	Alga Bay ..	London ..	June 29
Clifford ..	300	H. Davis ..	Mosell Bay ..	St. Kath. ..	June 15

These Ships have been selected specially for their high-class and fast-sailing qualities, and will be found well worth the attention of Shippers and Passengers.—W. O. YOUNG, 54, Cross-street, Manchester; 19, Dale-street, Liverpool; and Sun-court, Cornhill, London.

GRAND FINE ART TREBLE NUMBER OF THE
ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

On SATURDAY NEXT, JUNE 9th, will be published
A TREBLE NUMBER
OF
THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS,
CONTAINING
SPLENDID ENGRAVINGS

From the best Pictures now Exhibiting at the ROYAL ACADEMY and by the SOCIETIES of PAINTERS in WATER-COLOURS; among which will be found:—

- Painted by
- "The Wrestling Scene," from "As You Like It" (whole-page.) D. Maclise, R.A.
 - "The Nearest Way in Summer-Time" (whole-page.) T. Creswick, R.A., and R. Ansell.
 - "The Mithereless Bairn" (whole-page.) T. Faed.
 - "Scotch Gamekeeper" (whole-page.) R. Ansell.
 - "Britemart Unarming." F. R. Pickersgill, A.R.A.
 - "Belted Will's Tower, Naworth." W. Bennett.
 - "The Devil's Bridge, Pass of St. Gothard." W. Collingwood Smith.
 - "The Post-Office at Albano." Louis Haghe.
 - "En Route." Joseph J. Jenkins.
 - "The Beacon." George Hodgson.

- Also, the following
WHOLE-PAGE ENGRAVINGS:
- "Forts de la Halle." Gavarni.
 - "Dames de la Halle." Gavarni.
 - "Dutch Boats." E. Duncan.
 - "Alfred the Great." J. Gilbert.
 - "Last Week of Smithfield Market." E. Duncan.
 - "Karanji, near Balaclava." E. A. Goodall.

ENGRAVINGS OF THE
PALACE OF INDUSTRY,
Now open at Paris; and of the
HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION AT THE CRYSTAL
PALACE, AT SYDENHAM;
Besides a Variety of Authentic Sketches from
SEBASTOPOL AND THE SEAT OF WAR.

THREE SHEETS—144 Columns. ONE SHILLING.
No Extra Copies can be obtained unless ordered immediately.

THE BALTIC FLEET, 1855.—We have the satisfaction to announce that on Saturday last Mr. J. W. Carmichael, the celebrated marine painter, formerly of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, sailed for the Baltic, to sketch the Events of the War for the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS. The Sketches by this distinguished Artist as they are received will be engraved in our Journal, so as to present a Series of Illustrations of the Operations of the coming Campaign in the Baltic.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 1855.

THE Austrian Government is not pleased at the publication by the British Parliament of the protocols of the late Conferences at Vienna. Count Buol, in a circular to the Austrian Plenipotentiaries at the various Courts of Germany, persists in stating that the negotiations for peace cannot be regarded as terminated; and Lord Palmerston, in urging the withdrawal of Mr. Milner Gibson's motion, based his plea for Parliamentary silence on the same pretext. Count Buol, who sticks to protocols, "like grim Death," states that "Austria has resolved to recommend confidentially to the serious consideration of the

Courts of Paris and of London new propositions, in which she thought to find a loyal and complete fulfilment of the Third Point of guarantee, and which his Majesty the Emperor deems of a nature to be presented to the St. Petersburg Cabinet as an ultimatum." After scolding the British Government for breaking through the reserve which Count Buol thinks the case demanded, and for publishing what he deems ought not to have been published, he concludes by informing the representatives of the Emperor that "as yet Austria does not express any opinion upon the situation of affairs;" but that shortly it will break silence and explain itself fully to the German Diet at Frankfurt. Fortunately the question has removed itself out of the pale of diplomacy—at least, for the present. For the future, the policy which Austria may be pleased to adopt with reference to the war against Russia is a matter of more concern to herself than to France and England. The Allies—with an alliance cemented in the sanguinary fields of the Alma and of Inkerman—are able to fight their own battle. They would be glad of Austrian aid; but they are in a position to do without it. If Austria plays the coward;—if she hate Russia, but is afraid to strike her;—if she allows timidity to sway her councils when boldness would best become them, on her own head will fall the retribution. She will not harm England or France;—she will not save Russia from humiliation; but she will bring upon herself calamities that no foreign foe could inflict upon her, and open an account with her own subjects which she will have to wipe off at a far greater expense and far more fearful hazard than she could have incurred by any display of vigour against Russia. If any State of Europe has reason to dwell with complacency upon the possible defection of Austria from the cause of the Western Powers, it is the gallant little State of Sardinia. There was a deluge after Metternichism, which Metternich foresaw; and there may be a deluge after Buolism and Bruckism; which neither Buol nor Bruck may be clear-sighted enough to discern. Austria is, indeed placed in a perilous dilemma by the war; a dilemma so great and so perilous that nothing but the highest courage and the promptest decision can save her from evil consequences. Take which side she will she is confronted with a danger and a difficulty. If she take part against Russia by actual hostility, the foreign armies, which in an unfortunate hour she degraded herself by calling to her rescue against the insurgent Hungarians, will, in all human probability, be employed to excite her Hungarian and Slavonian populations to rebellion. Russia knows that there are such men as Kossuth and Mazzini in existence—and, in case of need, will not scruple to employ them, if she can discover no better or more readily available means of weakening her enemy. On the other side, if Austria boldly throws in her lot with Russia, the Allies will be unwise indeed if they, also, do not make use of the question of "nationalities," beginning with that of Poland, to see how far it will carry them, and what damage it will inflict upon the enemies of European freedom. The predicament of Austria would in this respect be bad enough in itself, without the additional evil of a neighbour and rival so tricky, and in reality so hostile, as Prussia—striving against her for the preponderance in Germany, and ready to take part in any project that might aggrandise the dynasty of Brandenburg at the expense of that of Hapsburg. Such are but a few of the difficulties that beset Austria; but, as happens among individuals, so it also happens among States and Empires—boldness and honesty to do the right, irrespective of consequences, cuts the knot that no skill and prudence could untie. It is in desperate circumstances that genius and greatness declare themselves; and if there be either genius or greatness in the Councils of the Emperor Francis Joseph, or in his own breast, Austria will even now at this, the eleventh hour, defy Russia by act and deed, as she has already defied her by her diplomacy. To have been saved from dismemberment by the armies of the late Emperor Nicholas is humiliation enough for a great empire like Austria to endure in a century. She cannot afford to add to it such humiliation as would be involved by her withdrawal from the Western alliance, after the part she has taken in the late negotiations.

The Sebastopol Inquiry has unearthed a great many curious things; but perhaps a correspondence which has just been published, as part of the illustrations to the "System" which has so signally superseded the British Constitution, is about as instructive as any disclosures yet obtained. The number of letters is small, though the principal epistles are somewhat lengthy. The writers are the late Premier of England, and the late Leader of the House of Commons. The subject is the alleged incapacity of the Duke of Newcastle for the all-important office which he lately held. The difficulty is the doing justice to the nation concurrently with behaving kindly to the Duke. The result is (we need hardly say) that the Earl and the Lord prefer to sacrifice the interests of the country. The moral is—but perhaps that may be left to the sagacity of the readers.

There is nothing new in the facts which are thus elicited. Months ago the affair itself was the subject of debate in both Houses; and the country "thought its own thoughts" about the men who had stood by their order so scrupulously as the late Premier. And now it is probable that the still graver and darker revelations recently made by Mr. Gladstone, on behalf of himself and his own clique in the late Cabinets, will engross the attention of the nation, and this minor intrigue will pass unheeded. When a retiring Minister deliberately informs us that, while he and certain colleagues were professing to manage the war in the way most consistent with the honour of England, they were really conducting it in the way least injurious to the interests of Russia, we take the black confession *en masse*, and scarcely care to inquire into the means by which this patriotic scheme was carried out. Yet, as the Duke was one of Mr. Gladstone's party, and as the Earl of Aberdeen was another, this retention of an official whom the Whig Lord declared, and the Peelite Lord admitted, to be unequal to his office was a victory on the side of the Russians in the Cabinet. The large question arising out of Mr. Gladstone's speech on the Disraeli motion is too important to be discussed incidentally, but it is most desirable to note how the Newcastle affair connects itself with the misfortunes of the Crimean campaign.

Lord John Russell appears perfectly to have understood the real views of his colleagues; and, with a certain degree of shrewdness, to have foreseen that, ultimately, the terrible war in which we had

engaged would be found a Frankenstein to its creators. He, therefore, seems to have been inclined to "make stock" for the time that he saw was coming. When the late Government should be accused of playing with the war, it would be well to have it on record that a portion of the Government, at least, had had an awakened conscience on the subject. We sincerely wish that a worthier view of Lord John Russell's protest could be taken; but it would be an insult to common sense to affect to see sincerity in a demonstration which, upon a matter of such awful importance to the country as the due prosecution of a great war, went no further. We know the end of the story. Lord John Russell, in his place in the House, told us that, having protested against the Duke of Newcastle holding office, he took the advice of friends, and did not press the matter. *Liberavit animam!* How thrice fortunate is the nation whose ruler can absolve himself of responsibility so pleasantly. A few neatly-rounded paragraphs addressed to a noble friend—and the work is done. The process is only paralleled by that of Mr. Micawber, who, when in the financial straits, always sat down and recorded in writing his extreme unhappiness and disgust with society, and rose with a kind of conviction that he had wound up his affairs.

The opinion of Lord John Russell was that the Duke of Newcastle ought to retire, and that Lord Palmerston ought to take his place. He assigns divers small reasons for this view, and a large one, and characteristically argues the minor reasons best. The grand justification for taking the War Department out of inefficient hands, and consigning it to others supposed to be vigorous, is treated very gingerly by both noble Lords; but the Earl of Aberdeen, in whose retentive memory a certain Palmerstonian phrase about "antiquated" imbecility may have abided, was eager to remind all whom it might concern that, if age were to be taken into account, "Palmerston is within a few months as old as I am." Both of the conscript fathers honoured the year 1784 by condescending then to come into the world for its government and guidance. But Lord Aberdeen does not deal with Lord John's proposition so much on the ground that Lord Palmerston was too old for the work, as on the assumption that nobody could do the work at all—the logical corollary being that it might as well be left undone by a nice willing person, like friend Newcastle, as by anybody else. And this logic appears to have convinced Lord John Russell, or at least the "friends" who advised him, not to stir further in the business.

There are many undeniable propositions and much general good sense in Lord John Russell's protest, and this, we humbly venture to submit, makes the case rather worse for him. For an aristocratic logician he has been strangely content to avail himself of a plea which we hear chiefly from the very humble classes. No mistress of a household who has had occasion to point out the blunders of a domestic, but will remember to have been met with an answer, which to the culprit seemed to convey an extenuation by no means so apparent to the complainant. "Well, M'm, do you know that all the time I was doing it, I thought, somehow, that it was wrong." When the hour comes for demanding of Lord John Russell how he can justify his having continued to co-operate with those who were, by their own confession, wronging the trust reposed in them by their Sovereign, he will rise and urge that honourable gentlemen have only to turn to the Sebastopol evidence, and read from his own letters evidence that he knew all the time that it was wrong. How small the difference between the servants of the Crown and the servants of the cheesemonger!

One other suggestion has been prompted, less by the perusal of these letters than by reconsideration of the part played by Lord John Russell at the time they were written. It is thought that his Lordship, with all his abstract reverence for Lord Palmerston and all his notorious devotion to that nobleman's interests, could not discern in Lord Palmerston's antecedents or character any especial reason for his becoming Premier—especially, when another statesman of extraordinary merit was ready for the office. But it was evident that Lord Palmerston's talents and energy could not be left in the Home Department—anybody could receive deputations on Beer Bills, and correct the blunders of country magistrates. The nation wanted Palmerston for use, and would have him. It might be better, Lord John is supposed to have thought, that the war should be handed over—technically and officially—to Lord Palmerston, and that he should be so placed that the wishes of the nation might seem to be met—than that the unreflecting and peremptory public should call him to the office of Premier. Palmerston, as War Minister, might remain so, in the event of changes; but from a less responsible post a change must lift him, and might lift him too high. If this were the idea, and Lord Aberdeen detected it, and therefore retained the Duke of Newcastle in place until change came and Lord Palmerston went up to the top of the tree, this was another victory of the Cabinet Russians.

So wags the world. Every week brings us some new evidence of the disinterested motives of those who are good enough to watch over our destinies, and of the system on which they work. But every such exposure, melancholy in itself, tends to good; and for this reason it is well that all possible publicity should be given to the Newcastle correspondence between Lords Aberdeen and John Russell.

THE NEWSPAPER-STAMP.—In consequence of unexpected delays in the House of Lords, the bill introduced by Sir G. Cornwall Lewis, on behalf of the Government, for the abolition of the compulsory stamps on newspapers, has not yet passed through Committee. As the third reading will, in all probability, not take place till near the middle of June, and as the law will only become operative in fourteen days after it receives the Royal Assent, no changes announced or contemplated by the newspaper press can be legally carried into effect for some weeks yet to come; possibly not before the first week in July.

THE CHURCH-RATE ABOLITION BILL.—The House of Commons is to go into Committee on this measure on Friday, the 8th of June; and Mr. Follett, M.P., has given notice that he will move that the bill be committed that day six months.

THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL has instituted a series of pecuniary fines varying from half a crown to half a sovereign, to be inflicted on his subordinates who are guilty of errors that endanger the safety of registered letters while passing through the post.

The Royal Agricultural Society have issued the programme of their intended proceedings at Carlisle, commencing July 19.



SEAR SEBASTOPOL.—AMBULANCE WAITING FOR THE WOUNDED.

SKETCHES OF THE WAR.

We resume our Artist's Sketches before Sebastopol, with a picturesque scene of the Watering-place, from the Middle, or, as it is sometimes called, the White House Ravine, from the building on the right of the picture, which is occupied for Commissariat stores. In the foreground is the Well and Watering-place, with picturesque groups of French soldiers—Zouaves, &c.; and on their way down the ravine, towards Sebastopol, is the night relief, which generally musters between two and three thousand men (*See front page*).

Next is a View of an Ambulance waiting for the Wounded: in the distance is seen the Green Hill. This lonely spot is near the Valley of Death—of which we have also received from our Artist a sketch full of the poetic melancholy which the name implies. We shall engrave this sad scene in a week or two.

The next Illustration is from a Correspondent in the Camp before Sebastopol, who sent it as a specimen of Russian art—"a grotesque picture (he says), which I observed suspended above an embrasure in one of the enemy's batteries, which guard the Sebastopol road at the head of the Dockyard Creek. The subject seems to intimate that the Russian gunner can enjoy the ridicule of his enemies as well as his neighbours." The scene is sketched as seen through a telescope directed on the works in Sebastopol.

Our own Artist accompanies his



HOUSE IN SEBASTOPOL, SEEN THROUGH A TELESCOPE.

sketch of the next Illustration with these particulars:—"I had commenced a view of the town of Sebastopol from the Green-hill Battery; but, having had several shots fired at me from the Russian rifle-pits, with rather unpleasant precision, I thought it advisable to defer the washing-in of the effect in my water-colour sketch until some more favourable opportunity, when the attention of the Russian sharpshooters might be directed to some other object; for, I assure you that the sound of a rifle-ball is anything but pleasant to the ears of an amateur." The accompanying scene is the result of this somewhat perilous enterprise. It shows the town, sketched from the battery, with piled arms, a working party, &c.

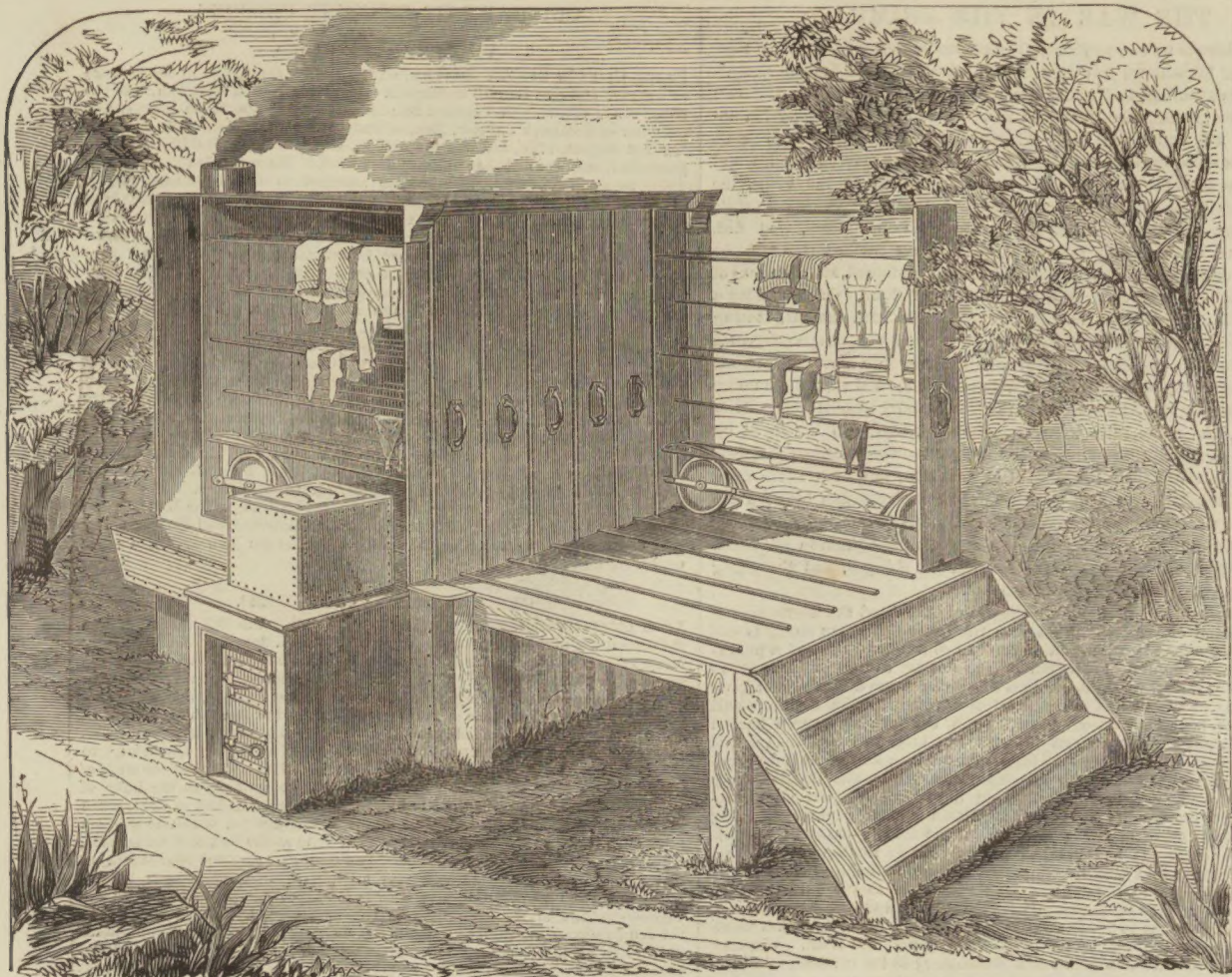
The lowermost Illustration on the next page shows the spot at Balaklava, where the linen, &c., are washed for the General Hospital.

NEWLY-INVENTED DRY-ING-CLOSET.

This Closet has been recently forwarded to Scutari, for the convenience of the sick and wounded in the Hospital. Its cost has been defrayed by the munificence of Miss Burdett Coutts, who has made her self acquainted with its capabilities to the most minute details, and has sent an engineer to Scutari with it, to superintend the working of it for a time. The Closet consists of six "horses" of galvanised iron, inclosed in a double case of corrugated



SEBASTOPOL, FROM THE GREEN-HILL BATTERY.



NEWLY-INVENTED DRYING-CLOSET, FOR THE HOSPITAL AT SCUTARI.

ron; the intervals between the two cases being filled with earth or sand, to prevent the external radiation.

Its capabilities were previously tested before Miss Burdett Coutts, when it was shown that 1000 articles of linen can be thoroughly dried in twenty-five minutes by means of this contrivance. The working temperature is 240 deg. The waste heat from the furnace heats the water in the boiler of 100 gallons capacity. There is also the convenience of a washing-trough and a wringing-machine attached. The whole apparatus is portable, and easily fixed in any situation.

This Closet was made from a suggestion by Lieut. Tracey; the entire management being left to Mr. Jeakes, of Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury, under whose energetic direction it was completed and got ready for trial in sixteen days.

THE NEW TURKISH ARMY.—The *Journal de Constantinople* publishes the Imperial *hatt*, by which the Christian subjects of the Sultan hitherto excluded, by jealousy of religion and race, from the profession of arms, are called to take part in the military service of the empire. The proclamation starts from the point, that all the subjects of the Sultan are alike, and without exception cared for by their Sovereign. It is next intimated that measures are taking for consolidating the bases of the Ottoman State, for carrying out administrative reforms, and for giving legal guarantees for the welfare of all. It is under these circumstances that the regulations respecting the military service of the empire come under revision. The fact that the Mussulmans at present perform the military service, while the *patrie* belongs to all, is presented as an anomaly which it is time to abolish. Accordingly, it has been resolved, with the advice of the high dignitaries of the State,

that all the Sultan's Christian subjects shall be liable to be called on to serve in the army, as they are already bound in duty to do; that those enrolled shall form a military contingent; and that those who do not serve in person shall pay, in addition to the ordinary taxes a special impost, to be called the *Djdzze*, or indemnity. It is said, further, that owing to the great numerical superiority of the Mussulman population, and their habit of carrying arms, the Christian portion of the Sultan's army will always be smaller than that composed of the same elements as at present. The rules under which these measures are to be carried out will be published in special *firmans*. In the meanwhile the enrolment will commence, both in Asia and in European Turkey, the soldiers so raised to be entitled to all the rights which may hereafter be established more definitely for the benefit of the Christian army. Those soldiers who give proof of capacity and merit will be raised to the rank of officers. In this way the burden of military service, which has hitherto weighed exclusively upon the Mussulmans, will be alleviated, and the other classes of the population of the empire will be admitted to the honour and glory of serving the State and the country.

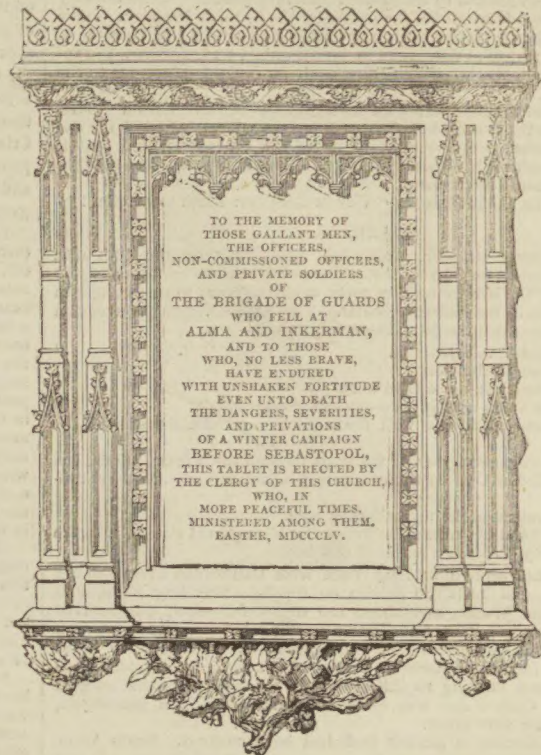
THE RUSSIAN OVERLAND TRADE.—The transport of goods between St. Petersburg and Kowno has, in consequence of the blockade of the Bay of Finland, attained a magnitude that affords employment to some thousands of carriers, waggons, &c. and it is computed also to 30,000 horses. In addition to this amount of traffic the number of troops marching from the capital westwards often make the roads impassable for private travellers for half a day at a time. The unconscientious conduct of these *kibitka* drivers, as regards the goods committed to their care, has given rise to so many complaints, that the Minister of the Interior has found himself compelled to issue special police instructions with reference to these gentry. It was notorious that they not unfrequently threw away to the road-side goods entrusted to them to convey, or purposely left them at railway stations or in private houses, not to say pawned them.—*Letter from Berlin May 26.*

MONUMENT TO THE GUARDS AT WINDSOR.

A NEAT tablet, of Gothic design, has lately been erected in the Church of the Holy Trinity at Windsor, to the memory of the officers and soldiers of the Brigade of Guards, who fell at the battles of the Alma and Inkerman.

The Church of the Holy Trinity was erected ten years ago, in part for the accommodation of the Household Troops quartered at Windsor; and here the whole of the Brigade of Guards have frequently attended Divine service. Hence arose the proposition to erect this tablet; and the accompanying representation of this memorial will, doubtless, be very interesting to the remains of that gallant brigade, when this number of our Journal reaches the Crimea, as a token of homage to their bravery, and sympathy with their sufferings.

The Household Brigade generally have a kindly feeling towards the Church of the Holy Trinity. The officers of the 1st and 2nd Life Guards have selected it as the church in which to place tablets to the memory of two of their brother officers who have died in the course of the last six years (Lord William Beresford and the Hon. Captain Bertie). The non-commissioned officers and privates of the same regiments have also placed here a tablet to the memory of the Rev. John Hawley, in testimony of



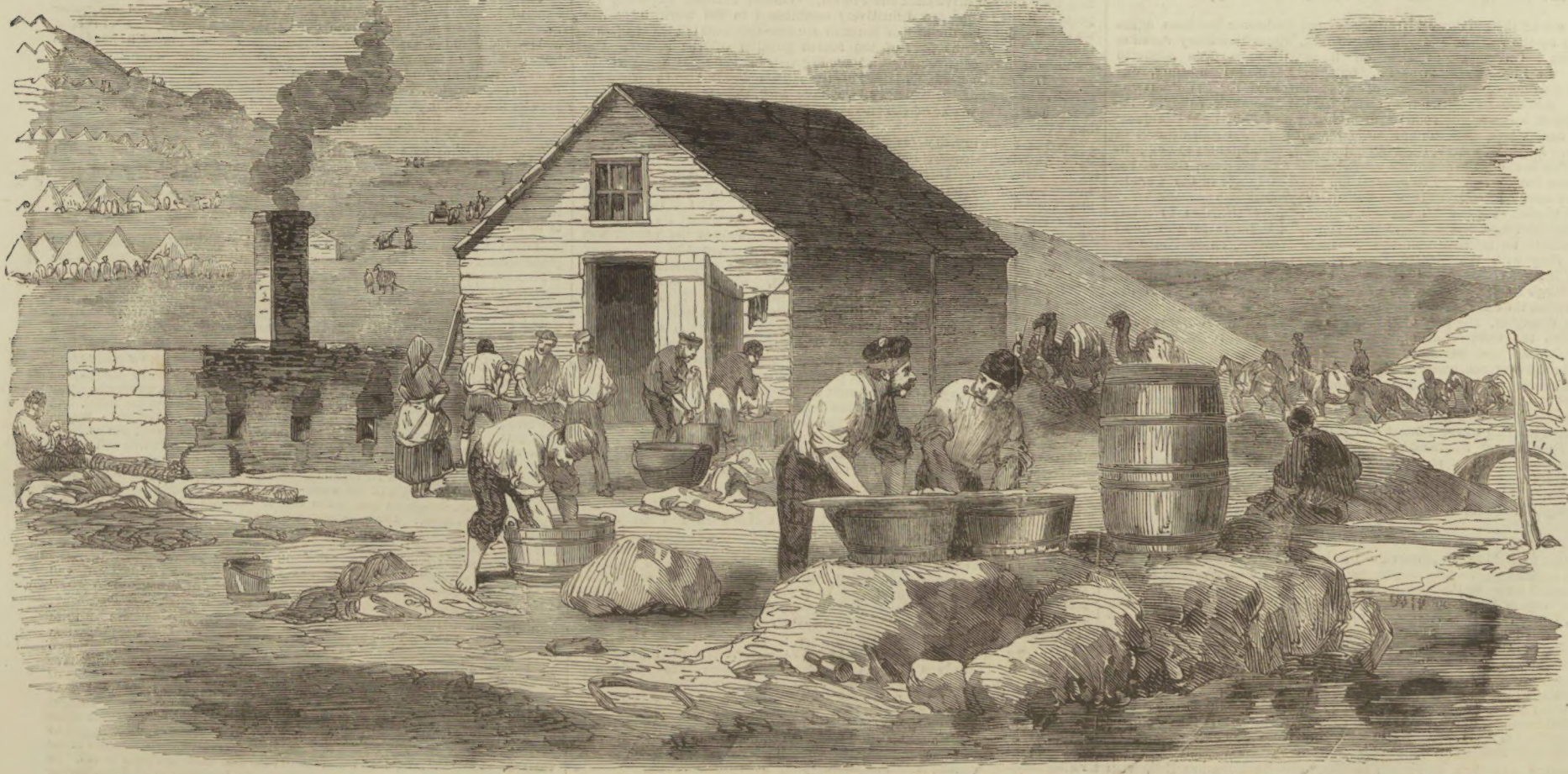
TABLET JUST ERECTED IN HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, WINDSOR.

their regard and esteem of his zealous ministry among them when they were quartered at Windsor. These circumstances are highly gratifying, indicative of the feeling of attachment of the Household Brigade towards the church.

The tablet has been designed and erected by Mr. White, of Vauxhall-bridge-road.

A BERNE journal states that Colonel Dickson had arrived there for the purpose of concluding contracts for the formation of an Anglo-Swiss Legion. Colonel Salzberger, of Thurgau, is said to have undertaken to organise this legion, in which duty he will be joined by Colonel Funk, who commands the artillery of Berne. These officers will each command one of the two regiments, which will be placed under the orders of an English General. The advantageous conditions offered to the soldiers are the same as those given by the recruiting officers at Longwy and Thionville—viz., 150f. bounty and 1f. 30c. a day pay.

M. CHARLES BAUDIN who has acted as *Chargé d'Affaires* here since the departure of his Excellency Count Walewski, retains his post as First Secretary to the Embassy.



WASHING ESTABLISHMENT FOR THE GENERAL HOSPITAL AT BALACLAVA.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

SPANISH TROUBLES.

To all appearance Spain is as far as ever from a state of internal peace and security. The Carlist party taking advantage of the opposition which the bill authorising the sale of church property has excited among the clergy, has been busily at work in the army, and the result is that several regiments have revolted.

The Madrid journals of the 24th ult. contain a Royal decree by which the captaincies-general of Aragon, Burgos, and Navarre, are declared in a state of siege. They also contain telegraphic despatches from Saragossa, Calatayud, Navarre, and Burgos, received in the course of the previous evening, and giving an account of the measures taken for putting down the military risings. The first three merely state that the local authorities, at the head of military forces were still in pursuit of the insurgents; the last says that a detachment had fallen in with a band of seven military insurgents at Villadiego, and had captured one man, all its seven horses, and nearly all its arms. General Bedoya had been nominated to the command of the troops sent from Madrid to act against the insurgents. Extraordinary powers have been demanded of the Cortes by the Spanish Ministry. These consist in authority to intern any individual whom the Council of Ministers may regard as dangerous to public order; and, further, to suppress any newspapers whose hostility shall be deemed dangerous to the powers that be.

The *Espano* of the 23rd states, on the authority of letters from Rome, that the Papal Court considers the carrying into effect of the bill for the sale of ecclesiastical property a violation of the concordate, and that it consequently contemplated breaking off relations with Spain, and publishing protests against the measure.

The cry of the Carlist band is "Vive la Religion: death to heretics!"

AMERICA.

The mail-steamer *Atlantic*, which left New York on the 16th ult., arrived at Liverpool on Sunday last. The political news relates chiefly to the progress of the Know-Nothing party, which appears to be stronger in the interior than in the seaboard States. The Know-Nothing convention at Syracuse has passed the following resolutions:—

1. Americans shall rule America.
2. The union of all the States.
3. No north, no south, no east, no west.
4. The United States as they are—one and inseparable.
5. No sectarian interference with the legislation or administration of the American laws.
6. Hostility to the assumption of the Pope, through the bishops, priests, and prelates of the Roman Catholic Church, here in a republic sanctified by Protestant blood.
7. Thorough reform in the naturalisation laws.
8. Free and liberal educational institutions for all sects and classes, with the Bible, God's Holy Word, as a universal text-book.

The *Illinois* had arrived at New York with Californian advices to the 17th of April, and 1,915,380 dollars on freight. The brig *Vesta*, with Colonel William Walker and about 150 of his followers, was to have sailed for Nicaragua. The mines were yielding largely, and every day brought reports of new discoveries. Mechanics and clerks who, in times past, had been intent on following their professions in San Francisco and other cities, were flocking to the mines to try their fortunes at gold digging. The *Golden Age* was ashore near Panama. The passengers, mails, and specie were saved.

News from Mexico to the 5th inst. had been received. Santa Anna, who, according to previous accounts, was so seriously ill that his life was despaired of, had proceeded south at the head of a body of troops to do battle with the insurgents. An addition to the navy had been made by the purchase of the propeller *Benjamin Franklin* and the bark *Catherine Augusta*. A report was current in Mexico that a large number of troops in Sonora had pronounced against the Government. Well-authenticated accounts of the discovery of rich gold placers located in the neighbourhood of San Francisco, about eight days' march from Acapulco, are published.

In Peru Generals Castillo and Roman, with Senators Elias and Eureta, were canvassing for the offices of President and Executive Junta busily. The election was to come off early in May. General Flores was still at Lima. The liberty of the press had been extended by a Government decree. General Santa Cruz had addressed the electors of Bolivia from Paris, asking for the Presidential nomination; but General Belzu opposed his pretensions vehemently. Belzu was in La Paz. The Republic was still quiet.

Jamaica advices of the 6th of May state that the Emigration Commissioners had held an important meeting. The object was to determine what should be done with the emigrants who had arrived in the island from Madeira, and had been landed at Mondego Bay; and also to ascertain what progress had been made in procuring land to be cultivated on their account by such of the Chinese as had been wandering about partly from ill-health and partly from their incapability to take service, owing to their ignorance of our language and incapacity of making themselves understood. Some London missionaries had strongly reprobated any Government grant of money for the purposes of education; but the Governor, in reply to their address, showed that great exertion would be required to elevate the people from their moral and intellectual degradation. Falmouth had been visited by an earthquake.

INDIA AND CHINA.

By the arrival of the Overland Mail we have received news from Calcutta to the 23rd of April; Bombay, the 1st of May; and Hong-Kong, the 15th of April.

The latest intelligence from Burmah is rather unfavourable to the prospects of peace. Reports have arrived at our frontier station from the capital of the occurrence of another palace revolution, which has terminated in unseating the King, and elevating the heir-apparent to the throne.

The peace of the north-west frontier beyond Peshawar has been again disturbed by the restless and predatory tribes, whose hereditary vocation is plunder. On a recent occasion a small force was sent to chastise the Busee Keil Afreedies, but they effected nothing, except the burning of some stacks of wood intended for the Peshawar market. Another expedition has started for the Meeranzie valley, at the end of April, consisting of 2000 or 3000 horse and foot, light Punjabee troops, accustomed to mountain warfare, with a good complement of artillery. Major Edwards, the Political Agent, accompanies the expedition, which is under the command of Brigadier Chamberlain, one of the heroes who has been trained to generalship at an early age in the wars in which we have been engaged for the last fifteen years.

Rajah Goolab Sing and his nephew, Juvahir Sing, threaten to settle some long-existing differences between them by a recourse to arms, and as this will be an infraction of the treaty of Mooltan, entered into by Goolab Sing with the British Government in 1846, the Governor-General has directed a watchful eye to be kept on the movements of Goolab Sing's troops, resolving not to espouse the cause of either of the chiefs, unless the other should disobey the orders of Government.

From Shanghai, the latest dates are to the 9th April. All was quiet there; and the troops having been withdrawn towards Nankin, the country round was resuming its former tranquillity. At Canton political affairs remain much as before; but, as the pirates, who have been driven from their stronghold near Whampoa, are now scattered over the province in detached parties, trade has not yet resumed its course, and but little business has been done either in exports or imports. An expedition, consisting of the *Hornet* and *Buttern*, with boats from the *Winchester*, *Sybilie*, and *Spartan*, had been dispatched against them, which destroyed ten junks, and about ninety men. Of those who got on shore, the majority were hunted down and killed by the villagers.

Sir John Bowring was daily expected from Siam, and would then proceed to Japan, with Sir James Stirling.

SCARCITY OF MEN IN RUSSIA.—In the present dearth of soldiers, which is beginning to be most sensibly felt, the Emperor has favourably listened to a proposal made by the Governor-General of Caucasus for embodying the irregular corps of Tartars and Bolybes inhabiting the provinces of Orenburg, Samara, Wiatska, and Perm. Count Perofsky is empowered to organise and embody the nomadic hordes of the Bashkirs and Tartars of the Steppes into regular military colonies, giving each family thirty dessatines of land belonging to the domains of the Crown.

A SIGN OF RETURNING PROSPERITY.—At the Bradford Borough Court, the other day, the night superintendent of the police force told the magistrates that during the last fortnight there had been more drunkenness in the street, and more drunken people brought to the police-station, than during the three months previously. The Mayor inquired, "How do you account for it?" "Trade must be mending," said the officer.

SARDINIA AND THE POPE.—The Convents Suppression Bill, with the amendments of the Senate, has been adopted by the Sardinian Chamber of Deputies, by a majority of 25 to 23. At Turin public expectation is on the tip-toe to know how the Court of Rome will act. If an excommunication should be determined on, the country is prepared to bear it.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

At last there is an end to Prince Gortschakoff's stereotyped phrase that "nothing of importance has occurred on other points of the peninsula." The second expedition to Kertch was more successful than the first one, having taken possession of that port and Yenikalé without opposition apparently. The expedition, under Sir George Brown, arrived off the Strait of Kertch on the Queen's birthday; and the troops having landed and ascended the heights while several steamers went up to the town, the Russians, seeing that it was useless to resist so strong a force, blew up their fortifications, destroyed a large quantity of army stores, and fled. According to Vice-Admiral Bruat's despatch from the Sea of Azoff, the magazines destroyed by the Russians at Kertch contained 360,000 sacks of corn, 160,000 sacks of oats, and 100,000 sacks of flour. On Thursday a despatch was received from Lord Raglan, dated the 29th instant, stating that Sir George Brown reports, on the 28th, that the troops continued healthy; that five vessels laden with corn had run into Kertch, ignorant of the place having been taken, and were captured; and that the number of guns taken by the Allies exceeds 100. A foundry near Kertch, where shot, shell, and Minié balls were manufactured, was also destroyed by Sir George Brown. One source, therefore, whence the defenders of Sebastopol have received their supplies of ammunition, has been taken from them; the Russian means of carrying on a communication between the Crimea and the main have been cut off; and the Allies command all the principal ports of the Sea of Azoff—Taganrog, where the iron of Siberia and the ordnance manufactured in the Ural are shipped, and the rising grain depôts of Berdiansk and Marianopol.

The occupation of Kertch closes the Sea of Azoff and the whole south-eastern portion of the Russian empire; the entire Circassian coast is cut off; and the contest is carried on within the contracted limits of a peninsula where the numerical strength of the enemy cannot be brought to bear against us, and where it becomes every day more difficult to support a large body of troops and to secure a line of retreat. The Russians will soon, in fact, have no base of operations but the burning steppes behind the river Salghir, which cannot be crossed by large bodies of men in the height of summer without severe loss, and cannot in any manner be occupied or defended. According to all experience of war, the Russian army in the interior of the Crimea must be in a position of great embarrassment, for its movements are confined within a small peninsula, having only two, or at most three, lines of road for the arrival of supplies or the withdrawal of troops; and even the lines of road by the tongue of Arabat and by the bridge over the Putrid Sea will be interrupted by the Allies, if the steam gun-boats in the Sea of Azoff succeed, as they are likely to do, in forcing the passage of Genitchi, between Arabat and the mainland.

If the telegraph is to be trusted, the occupation of Galatz has been decided on, to be followed by an attack upon Ismail and Reni. Whether this latter movement is intended as a preliminary to the invasion of Bessarabia, does not appear. The occupation of these three towns would give the Allies the command of the Lower Danube, and would enable them to liberate the grain trade of the Principalities—a most important step at the present moment, when food is so dear in England and America.

Simultaneously with the important successes at Kertch, the French have distinguished themselves by another desperate attack upon the outworks of Sebastopol, in which they have been victorious, although at no small cost. In a despatch from General Pelissier, dated the 23rd May, he says:—

The enemy had formed between the Central Bastion and the sea a large place d'armes, where they intended assembling considerable forces, in order to make important sorties against us. On the night of the 22nd we attacked these works, which were defended by almost all the garrison. The combat was very severe, and lasted almost the whole night. We have taken and occupied the half of the works, and I hope to be able to announce to you to-morrow that the remainder were taken the night before.

In the second despatch, dated ten o'clock at night on the 24th ult., General Pelissier says:—

We have happily completed last night the capture of the works attacked the previous day, and we occupy them. The enemy, who in the first attack suffered enormous losses, yielded more easily. Ours, though severe, have been less than theirs. The anniversary of the birthday of her Majesty Queen Victoria was cordially celebrated to-day with our Allies.

The *Moniteur* of Monday published the following despatches received by the Minister of War from General Pelissier, containing some further particulars:—

CRIMEA, May 25, 10 p.m.—To-day we have occupied the line of the Tchernaya. The enemy, who were not in force, offered little resistance in disputing the ground, and retreated rapidly into the hills. We have definitively established ourselves in the works, carried during the nights of the 22nd and 23rd. An armistice was agreed upon for burying the dead, and we were enabled to form an estimate of the enemy's losses. They must be about 5000 or 6000 men killed and wounded.

May 26, 10 p.m.—The enemy has not made any demonstration, either in front of the place, or against our lines on the Tchernaya. The works of fortification at Kamiesch are progressing. The sanitary condition of the army continues good.

This victory completes the attack made on the night of the 2nd of May. On that occasion, as our readers will remember, the French carried a portion of the external Russian works, but a considerable intrenchment remained between the Central Bastion and the Quarantine Fort, which was taken in the successive nights of the 22nd and 23rd ult. Prince Gortschakoff, in a report relating to the attack on the 22nd, merely states that the Russian forces lost 2500 men "in driving back the enemy," but, in fact, they did not drive back the French. General Pelissier expressly reports that his troops are definitively established in the work, by which we understand that the line of Russian counter-approach is turned against the place, and forms part of the fourth parallel of the attack. The French are also constructing and arming new breaching batteries within 100 metres of the place. Instead of the sorties directed by the Russians against the lines of the besiegers, we have now, therefore, advanced into a portion of the works of the enemy, and on all points a steady progress has been made.

On the following day (as will be seen from the above despatch), the 25th of May, General Pelissier reports the occupation of the valley of the Tchernaya. During the whole of the winter the Allies have been intrenched on the southern side of this little stream, and defended from attack by the steep cliffs which inclose the valley. The Russians held and fortified in like manner the northern bank, on which lie the ruins of old Inkerman. Their guns in position commanded the valley, and sometimes reached our encampment on the other side. As long as they occupied those heights in force it was impossible for the Allies to descend to the river; and, as we are informed that the river is now within our lines, it must be inferred that the forces which commanded it from the opposite side have been withdrawn. Indeed, General Pelissier states that "the enemy, not being in force, made very little resistance, and speedily retired to the mountains." But, if we understand this expression correctly, it would appear that no considerable portion of the Russian army remains between the Tchernaya and the mouth of the Bellik, and that the Allies may consequently ere long occupy the heights north of the river, and complete the investment of the town. The telegraphic despatch is not quite clear on this point; but the occupation of the valley of the Tchernaya would seem to imply the possession of both sides of the valley, without which the temporary possession of the low ground would be of no utility.

THE NEW ROUTE TO THE CONTINENT, VIA HARWICH AND ANTWERP from the high speed of the vessels employed—the run between the two ports (137 miles) being frequently accomplished in ten hours—and the economy both of time and money it offers, is rapidly increasing in favour. In future the boats will leave Antwerp at nine a.m., arriving at Harwich by daylight, and in time for a special train due at Shoreditch at 10.30 p.m. This alteration—which has been made in order to work in connection with the trains direct from Berlin, Leipzig, Brunswick, Hanover, Cologne, Brussels, &c.—will bring the Prussian capital within forty hours of London!

ENGLISH PRISONERS AT BALACLAVA.—Mr. Upton leaves for England with his wife and family in the course of the week. He is the son of the Mr. Upton who fortified Sebastopol. At the taking of Balacava he remained quietly, and gave himself up as a prisoner to the English. It is a purely nominal thing, as he goes about everywhere, accompanied generally by his three sweetly pretty girls. These little things, who are constantly about, dressed in round straw hats and little pink dresses, with two pet dogs, put one more in mind of London and home than anything I have seen out here. A rather amusing anecdote is told of them. They were the other day out for a walk, when a soldier, who did not know them, met them; in astonishment at seeing three pretty-dressed English-looking children, he stopped and asked them who they were, when the eldest replied, with the greatest gravity, "Please, sir, we're prisoners."—*Letter from the Camp, May 10.*

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

VISCOUNT STRANGFORD.

PERCY CLINTON SYDNEY SMYTHE, sixth Viscount Strangford in the Peerage of Ireland, and first Baron Penrhyn in that of the United Kingdom, was the eldest son of Lionel, fifth Viscount Strangford, by his wife, Maria Eliza, eldest daughter of Frederick Philipse, Esq., of Philipseburg, New York. He was born the 31st August, 1780, and was educated at Trinity College, Dublin, where he graduated, and obtained the gold medal in 1800. He succeeded his father in 1801 as sixth Viscount, and became attached to the diplomatic service of his country in 1803, and displayed in it much ability. He was successively British Minister in Brazil and at Stockholm, and Ambassador at Constantinople and at St. Petersburg, and, in 1828, he was again in Brazil on a special mission. The Viscount was, however, not only distinguished as a diplomatist, but also as an author and a poet. His interesting biography, and spirited verse translations of Camoens have made that great Portuguese bard gracefully and agreeably familiar to the English public. Lord Strangford's work has enjoyed deserved popularity, and now fairly ranks among our classic versions of foreign authors. Viscount Strangford obtained his British peerage by creation in 1825. He was also a Privy Councillor, a G.C.B., a G.C.H., a Grandee of Portugal, and a Knight of the Portuguese Order of the Tower and Sword. His Lordship married, the 17th July, 1817, Ellen, youngest daughter of Sir Thomas Burke, Bart., and widow of Nicholas Browne, Esq., of Mount Hazel, co. Galway, by whom (who died the 26th May, 1826) he had issue three sons—of whom two survive—and two daughters, viz., the Marchioness of Sligo (who died in 1852) and Mrs. Baillie. Viscount Strangford died on the 29th ult., at his residence, 68, Harley-street, Cavendish-square. He is succeeded by his elder son, now the seventh Viscount; who, as the Hon. George Sydney Smythe, is well and creditably known in Ministerial and Parliamentary life; and in literature, also, as the author of "Historic Fancies," and other works.

GENERAL LORD C. S. MANNERS.

LORD CHARLES SOMERSET MANNERS, a General in the British Army, was the second son of Charles, fourth Duke of Rutland, by his wife, the Lady Mary Isabella, fifth daughter of Charles, fourth Duke of Beaufort. He was born on the 24th of October, 1780. His military career begun very early in life, for he entered the Army before he was nineteen years of age, as a Cornet in the 10th Dragoons. He served during the Spanish campaign of 1808, in which occurred the cavalry engagement at Benevente. He accompanied the expedition under the Earl of Chatham, to whom he acted as Aide-de-Camp, to Walcheren, and he assisted at the siege of Flushing. In 1811 Manners was appointed Aide-de-Camp to the Duke of Wellington, and was on the Staff until the army entered Madrid in 1812, when he was entrusted with the command of the 3rd Dragoons, which he held till the war closed in 1814. Manners won much fame at the battles of Salamanca, Vittoria, and Toulouse. The medal and two clasps he received bear testimony to his gallant conduct in those glorious engagements. Lord Charles was, in 1817, appointed Aide-de-Camp to George IV.; and for a short time he was Colonel-in-Chief of the 11th Hussars; but he returned to his favourite corps, the 3rd Dragoons, as Colonel in 1839, and he retained that command till his death. In politics Lord Charles Manners was a Conservative. He represented Cambridgeshire in two Parliaments previous to 1835; and since that he sat for North Leicestershire uninterruptedly up to the last general election, when his declining health caused him to retire. He was succeeded in the representation by his nephew, the Marquis of Granby. Lord Charles, in recognition of his military services, was nominated, in 1838, a Knight Commander of the Bath. He had from the Cornetcy, which he obtained in 1799, risen through all the intermediate grades to that of General, which he attained in 1854.

General Lord Charles Somerset Manners died on the 25th ult., in London, shortly after arriving from the Duke of Rutland's seat, Belvoir Castle, Leicestershire. He was never married.

GENERAL SIR WILLIAM MACBEAN, K.C.B.

THIS distinguished officer, Colonel of the 92nd Foot, died at Brompton, on the 25th ult. He was born in 1782, the son of the late Colonel Macbean, of the 6th regiment, and grandson of Lieut.-General Macbean, R.A. He had been sixty years in the Army, and during that long period saw much service. In 1798 he was engaged against the Irish rebels, and was present at the battle of Vinegar-hill and the capture of Wexford. In 1808 he landed in Portugal, and thenceforward took an active part in the Peninsular campaign, having received a cross for his services in command of the 19th and 24th at Busaco, Salamanca, St. Sebastian, and Nive.

Sir William was successively on the Staff at the Cape of Good Hope, in the East Indies, and in Ireland. In 1830 he was created a Knight Commander of the Bath, and in 1843 was given the Colonelcy of the 92nd. He was one of the General Officers having rewards for distinguished services.

LIEUT.-GENERAL SIR GEORGE CHARLES D'AGUILAR.

THE death of this gallant officer occurred on the 21st ult., in Lower Brook-street. Sir George was born in 1785, the son of S. D'Aguilar, Esq., of Liverpool, and entered the Army in 1799. For eight years he served in India during the wars of Scindiah and Holkar, and was wounded at the last assault on Bhurtpore in 1806. Subsequently he took part in the Walcheren expedition; and was in Sicily, in the Greek Islands, and on the east coast of Spain. In 1815 he joined the Duke of Wellington's army in the Netherlands, and was present at the occupation of Paris. He was for eight years Assistant-Adjutant-General at the Horse Guards, and for twelve Adjutant-General of the Army in Ireland. At one period he was employed in China. He received the insignia of a Knight Commander of the Bath in 1825, and was given the Colonelcy of the 23rd Foot in 1851.

He married, in 1809, Eliza, second daughter of the late Peter Drinkwater, Esq., of Irwell-house, co. Lancaster, and had issue.

JOHN HEATON, ESQ., OF PLAS HEATON, CO. OF DENBIGH.

THIS respected gentleman, who died on the 14th ult., within two days of his sixty-eighth birthday, was the representative of an ancient family long seated in the Vale of Clwd, Denbighshire. The first of the house who settled in Wales was a follower of Henry Lacy, the great Earl of Lincoln, Constable of Chester, and had a grant of the Lordships of Rhos and Rhyonionc from Edward I. Mr. Heaton, the subject of this notice was Chairman of Quarter Sessions for the county of Denbigh during the last twenty years. In 1854 he received from the magistrates and inhabitants of that county a handsome testimonial, as an acknowledgment of his public services. Mr. Heaton was twice married: first, to Elizabeth, sister of Wilson Jones, Esq., of Hartsheath Park; and, secondly, to Anne-Eliza, eldest sister of Lord Henniker. Of the issue of these two marriages the survivors are seven sons and five daughters.

THE SHIPPING RETURNS OF THE BOARD OF TRADE FOR THE MONTH ending the 30th of April exhibit a considerable decrease in the employment of tonnage. This decrease, however, has been relatively felt to a greater extent in foreign than in British shipping, a further corroboration being thus afforded of the fact, that British vessels have the preference whenever there is a full supply of both.

THE GRAIN TRADE.—Letters from St. Petersburg state that some produce continues to be purchased and forwarded to the frontier, but that the holders are not ready sellers. With regard to the grain in the Azoff ports, an opinion is entertained among the persons on this side connected with the trade, that much of what remains may possibly share the fate of that which has just been burnt at Kertch, as the Russian authorities, in case of any demonstration, would not be likely to leave it. The bulk belongs to Russian or Greek owners, but a small quantity is held by a Steamer agent.

THE "ERICSSON" AS A STEAMER.—The *Ericsson*, now converted into a steam-ship of improved pattern, made her trial trip down the Bay on May 12. Captain Ericsson claims to have made a very important improvement by his new condenser. The saving is great in fuel, in the wear of the boiler, and the labour of cleansing it, through the use of fresh water in lieu of salt. By the new plan the boilers of the *Ericsson* are charged with fresh water, and as there is no waste she may carry the same out from New York to Havre and return without diminution other than what might result from accidental leakage. In addition, she has apparatus for distilling 1000 gallons of fresh water from salt a day, so that the great bulk of the water-tanks is saved for freight. Altogether, as a steam-ship, she comes near to the caloric standard of cheapness of power and economy in space. The room occupied by the machinery and boilers is unusually small, and the consumption of fuel greatly reduced from the old standard. It is stated that her furnaces cannot consume over thirty tons a day, and it is expected the Atlantic voyage will be made on a ton an hour. The speed of the ship on her trial trip was about twelve miles an hour, with an alleged consumption of fuel not exceeding three-fourths of this quantity.—*New York Paper.*

THE EARTHQUAKES AT BROUSSA.—The following is the official account of the losses suffered by the unhappy city of Broussa. The destruction of life has been greater than was at first believed. Out of every ten houses two have been burned in the fire which broke out after the second shock, two have been completely destroyed by the convulsion itself, three have received little or no injury, and three must be more or less demolished in order to be rebuilt. At the village of Tepepik every house has been destroyed; at several other villages the loss has been very great. The number of victims of the first shock of the 28th of February consists of 34 Mussulmans in Broussa and 6 in the villages, 40 Greeks, 14 Armenians, and 4 Jews in Broussa, and proportionate numbers in the villages. The total killed and wounded in the first shock amounts to 445. In the second shock the Jews suffered severely, no less than 50 of them having perished. On account of the precautions taken by the population the loss of life was less than on the former occasion. The total killed and wounded was 204. The whole loss, therefore, from the two shocks amounts to 649 victims.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

The settling for the Derby and Oaks has passed off comparatively well; and the King, with the exception of two leading speculators, have kept their ground. Mr. Popham originally stood to win £10,000, to £150 on his horse, but had allowed several of his friends to go shares with him in it; while the Jockey is said to have won £1400, and another of the fraternity who rode in the trial more than twice that amount. The balance against Mr. Davis on both these races was £15,000, so that he has escaped better than he usually does. The field for the Oaks was as moderate as it always is; and the winner, who had been coughing, was very lightly thought of both by trainer and owner. Nettle looked pretty well, and the way in which she and Marlow fell over the ropes seems quite unexplained. A subscription of £400 has already been raised for the latter, who, although he has been in the saddle for a quarter of a century, and won a Derby, Oaks, and St. Leger, besides several other great races, during the last seven years, had scarcely anything to fall back upon. It is not yet known what the chances are of his riding again next year, and it is a strange turn of fortune which takes so good a jockey off the turf, so soon after Butler and Robinson. The Jockey Club lost another member last week in the aged Lord Charles Manners, who was faithful to Newmarket Heath as long as he could sit on a horse. He was always a keen sportsman, and in his early Peninsular days only escaped from a mounted French picket by the daring style in which he rode at a brook. They had not been trained in the Vale of Belvoir or been wont to cross the Whissendine Brook, with the Quorn.

Racing men will have a busy week of it. On Monday, Mr. Greville's twelve yearlings will be sold at Tattersall's; but, although the highest blood in England courses in their veins, prices are not at all likely to come up to what they were last year. A brother to Bay Rosalind, a sister to Adine, and a colt by Orlando out of Industry are among the number. Ascot will occupy from Tuesday till Friday, and it is said that, although the building of some coal vaults under the Quadrangle will prevent her Majesty from giving her usual race banquets at Windsor, the Royal cortege will proceed, on Tuesday and Thursday, from Buckingham Palace, by railway to Staines, and meet their carriages there. Tuesday has eight events on its list. Rifleman (of whose Derby withdrawal quaint things are told) is in the Welcome Stakes, along with Para and Flatterer; while the Ascot Derby has a very weak entry with Pagnator, Strood, Hazel, &c. The Ascot Stakes is likely to produce a good race; and Hungerford, 8st. 8lb.; Vandal, 8st. 4lb.; Bluebeard, 7st. 7lb.; Mortimer, 7st. 1lb.; Vandal, 8st. 4lb.; and Hospodar, 7st. 8lb., are all backed. The acceptance of the latter has rather surprised turfites, as he was thought to be only a mile-and-a-half horse. We are told that Pantomime, 6st. 12lb., is not likely to be far off. Habena, Bonnie Morn, Shoreham, Dirk Hatteraick, Corobus, and Clarat are all in the Three-year-old Triennial; and Victoria, Fly-by-Night, Bird-in-Hand, Pazzoletto, Polmoodie, and Sugar-cane in the Two-year-old. The Vase has nine entries, among which we find Ratanaplan, Pandango, Tumbler, Habena, Onston, and Nolsy. On Wednesday the Fernhill entry (half a mile) includes Para, King Chat, Sugar-cane, Flyaway, Flatterer, and Queen's Head; and Jetty Trefz, Star of Surrey, Bribery, and Punchbox will probably be ready to oppose Meteoora's winning of the "Fifth Ascot Triennial" three seasons in succession. The Coronation Stakes has a very inferior lot of fillies in it; but the Hunt Cup includes some of the quickest horses of the day in its fifty-two, among whom Foxhunter, 6st. 11lb., is very lightly weighted.

The Gold Cup will be the great feature of Thursday. Rattle is not in it, as he is specially reserved for the Goodwood Cup, and there is an impression that Virago is below the mark, and will not go. Andover's appearance over such a long course seems problematical; we expect the field to be confined to Fandango, Ratanaplan, Tumbler, and Orestes, or Hungerford, and we should not be surprised to see them run home in that order. Nettle is in it, but is not backed as yet. Bonnie Morn and Cavalier seem likely to have a struggle of it in the St. James's Palace Stakes; Habena (4 lb. allowed) has really nothing to meet in the 50 sovs. Stakes, and Fly-by-Night, The Czar, Queen's Head, Warlock, Polmoodie, Wandering Willie, Sugarcane, and Dramatist (several of them with 5 lb. penalties) form a strong phalanx in the New Stakes. Friday's racing has at present no interesting feature, and the meeting would be quite as strong without it.

The "All England" cricketers have regularly taken the field, and will be at Neath, in South Wales, on Monday, and at Cirencester on Thursday. At Lord's, on Monday, the Marylebone Club and ground will play the gentlemen of the Surrey Club and county—each side to have two players allowed; and, on Thursday, the first-named, without their two players, will go to Oxford to play the Undergraduates.

Aquatic Clubs are also beginning to be more active. On Monday the Neleus Club have paired-off races at Mortlake; and on Thursday the London Model Yacht Club will have a first-class match on the Thames. Friday will also be a field-day among yachtsmen, both on the Thames and Mersey—as both the Royal London and Royal Mersey have sailing matches for first and second-class yachts.

MANCHESTER RACES—WEDNESDAY.

Trafford Handicap.—Dame Judith, 1. Mystic, 2.
Produce Stakes.—Ellermire, 1. Vandal, 2.
Union Cup.—The Early Bird, 1. Orinoco, 2.
Sapping Stakes.—Heir of Lynne, 1. St. Dunstan, 2.
City Plate.—Dear Me, 1. Bourgeoisie, 2.

THURSDAY.

Corporation Stakes.—Ellermire walked over.
Two-year-old Stakes.—Rowena filly, 1. Van Dunck, 2.
Tradesmen's Cup.—Saucebox, 1. St. Andrew, 2.

CENTIPEDES AND WILD DOGS.—One of the commonest and most exciting events, while it lasts, is the pursuit of a centipede. A small party are sitting in a hut enjoying a frugal and cheerful meal. Suddenly there is an outcry; a man starts up with a face of horror, and with outstretched finger points to a dark insect, all legs and nippers, about six inches long, which is moving rapidly with a tortuous motion along the wall. At the shout of "By Jove, there is a centipede!" every one leaps up, shouting "Where? where?" The boldest seize carving knives or table-forks, the more adroit two sticks, wherewith to catch the artful and venomous enemy; and in a moment the centipede, menaced on all sides, glides rapidly into some chink, where he is pursued by fire and match, or is cut into numberless pieces, and ground up beneath vindictive boot-heals. That his bites are extremely painful and venomous, if not dangerous, no one who has seen their effect can dispute. The part bitten inflames greatly, and the patient becomes feverish and excited; but the degree of venom varies very much, and, it is said, according to the size and colour of the insect. The brutes affect one's boots exceedingly, and attack an intruding foot with all the animus of an illegal occupier. They also like dropping from the ceilings and tent sides on the countenance of a sleeper, and climbing stealthily up the thin iron legs of bedsteads into blankets. Dog hunts are indescribably comic for a minute or two, principally on account of the proceedings of the unfortunate animal selected for the sport. He is generally a large shaggy creature, like a wolf, who has a sort of defiance of horses, and a rule over his fellows which induces him to remain quietly gazing at the approach of the hunters, while his less dignified comrades are seeking shelter by flight, and running with drooping tails and head hung sideways towards the ravines. The horsemen draw nearer; the dog rises and growls into a gruff bark in order to warn them off. On come the horses, spreading right and left; the dog becomes uneasy and surveys his position, rapidly losing confidence in his mastery over it and in its safety. A horrid whoop is uttered by the hunters, and the wretched animal is suddenly smitten with the terrible conviction that he is an object of special attention to the centaurs, and that he is "in for a run." Uttering loud barks and yelps, he takes to his paws and rushes away for the ravine, and there we leave him.—*Letter from Kadikoi.*

ALARMING SCARCITY OF WATER.—The possession of the Tchernaya will soon become of consequence to us, were it only for the want of water. I am credibly informed that the rain which fell within the last week is of most unusual occurrence at this time of year, and that such a supply of water is an exceptional circumstance which makes the heart of all the Southern Crimea glad in time of peace, and fills the farmers with joyful gratitude to Heaven. Henceforth, till the month of July, we can expect no rain. There will not be a drop of water from the sky to fill our wells and watercourses for months to come, and the fears I expressed several weeks ago with respect to a scarcity more terrible in its effects to man and beast than famine itself are becoming more and more reasonable, as the fierce hot sun day by day bakes the steppes and ravines of the plateau on which we are encamped. The consumption of water by an army of 180,000 men, and by tens of thousands of camp followers, by myriads of cattle, and by beasts of burden, may be readily conceived to be very great, and to increase as the heat does, just in proportion as the means of meeting it are diminished by the same cause. Some feeble attempts have been made to construct dams and form reservoirs at the Camps, and some efforts have also been made to bore Artesian wells; but I am not aware that any great success has attended the latter enterprise, and I am certain that the former has been very imperfectly carried out. Major Brandling of the 1 Troop, constructed some good troughs near Karani. Colonel Harding, with ample means has made a very creditable reservoir at the entrance to Balacava, and there have been isolated instances here and there of similar foresight; but, to the best of my knowledge, nothing has been done to provide water for "the army"—that thirsty monster, with 200,000 or 250,000 mouths and stomachs, who will soon lie sweltering and gasping beneath a broiling sun, worn out by exertion, and maddened by want of this vital necessity. Captain Owen, Royal Engineers, has been engaged in the interval of his labour in the

trenches in examining the country in search of water, by order of Lord Raglan; but, since that scientific and meritorious officer was so severely wounded, there has not been any engineer, so far as I know, systematically engaged in the search. The efforts to bore Artesian wells have not been successful; and I have been informed by Mr. Upton that he penetrated several hundred feet through the solid rock beneath the soil of his farm, and failed to find any trace of water. The number of wells on the plateau itself indicates sufficiently the extremity to which the very few inhabitants must be reduced now and then in hot dry seasons. Even supposing we had possession of the Tchernaya, it would be far to carry the water up steep hills 200 or 300 feet above its bed to the plateau at the east of which it flows, and the source would remain in possession of the enemy. This is a vital question if the army is to remain here.—*Letter from Kadikoi, May 18.*

NEW GUN CARRIAGE.—Letters from Munich, of the 26th, give an account of the experiments lately made at Munich, in the presence of the King and the whole of his staff, on a new gun-carriage, invented by Duke William of Wurtemberg, which were considered perfectly satisfactory. Although the carriage is constructed entirely of forged iron, it weighs two cwt. less than the common 6-pounder gun-carriage, and therefore requires less manual labour to detach it from the limber, and can be placed in position with greater celerity. But the chief feature of the invention is that the gun is placed beneath the axle, by which means the chances of upsetting the gun, from the inequalities of the field, are greatly reduced, as the centre of gravity is placed much lower than in the gun-carriages at present used in the artillery. The last experiments are to be made in the presence of Prince Luitpold, the head of the Bavarian artillery, on his return from Italy in a few days, and the invention will then be introduced generally.

THE RUSSIAN LOAN.—The *Hamburg Correspondent* contains a letter from Warsaw, of the 23rd, which says:—"The very slight hopes entertained of the re-establishment of peace have been very disadvantageous to the quotations of the Russian loan of fifty millions. Yesterday it fell from 92 to 91, and to-day it is still lower, without finding purchasers."

LAW VACANCIES.—The appointments vacated by Mr. Phinn, the Second Secretary to the Admiralty, are:—Counsel to the Admiralty, Judge Advocate of the Fleet, Recorder of Devonport, Counsel to Post-office on Western Circuit, and to the Royal Forests in Hampshire. The first appointment is worth £500 per annum.

Monsieur Gouard left New Orleans in a balloon, and travelled 310 miles in six hours, landed his passengers at Port Gibson, Mississippi, and then resumed his voyage.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

A very extensive business having been transacted in Consols this week, both for Money and Time, prices have further advanced nearly one per cent. This improvement in the quotations has, in a great measure, resulted from the large imports of the precious metals, and the favourable accounts from the Crimea respecting the progress of the Allied arms. In the Stock-Exchange there has been an increased demand for money, arising from the settlement in the Consol and Railway Market; but, at the Bank in Lombard-street, the applications for accommodation have been limited in number and extent. That money will become cheaper, is evident from the great accumulation of capital in the Bank. To get rid of a portion of it, numerous large purchases of Stock have been made on account of the institution, and many of the Bulls are apprehensive that the Stock will be forced upon the market at an unfavourable period. The South Sea Company has withdrawn some large sums hitherto lent by it.

There have been very few shipments of gold to the Continent, but some large purchases of bar silver have been made on German account, at 61½ per ounce.

The imports have been again liberal; viz. £171,000 from Australia, and not less than £280,000 from New York. Several vessels with gold on board are now due from Sydney and Melbourne.

On Monday Consols were very firm. The Three per Cents marked 91½ up to 92½; the Three per Cents Reduced, 91½; the New Three per Cents, 91½ to 91¾. Bank Stock was 209½; India Stock, 235. The Omnium was worth 3½ to 4½ pm. Long Annuities, 1855, 16½; Exchequer Bills, 12s. to 17s.; Ditto, Advertised, 5s. to 9s. pm. There was a steady market on Tuesday, and the Three per Cents, for the Account, were 92½—the Three per Cents Reduced being quoted at 91½; the Three per Cent Consols, 91½ to 92½. India Stock 234 to 235; Bank Stock, 208½ to 209½. Long Annuities, 1850, were 3 15-16; Ditto, 1855, 16½ 11-16. Omnium marked 4½ pm. Exchequer Bills, 16s. to 20s. Ditto, advertised, 6s. to 9s. pm. The Market was firm on Wednesday; Consols for Account were marked 92½ to 93½; the Three per Cents Reduced, 91½ to 91¾; the New Three per Cents, 92½; and the Three per Cents, 92½ to 93½; Long Annuities, 1850, 3½; India Bonds, 18s.; Exchequer Bills, 16s. to 17s.; Ditto, advertised, 9s. to 5s. pm.; Omnium, 4½ pm. On Thursday there was not quite so much activity, and prices showed a tendency to recede:—Consols were 92½ ¾; and for the Account, 93½ ¼ to 92½ ¾. New Three per Cents were 92 to 92½; and Reduced, 91½ ¾. Bank Stock, 210 to 203½; Omnium, 4½ pm.; and the New Annuities, 16 13-16. Exchequer Bills, 16s. to 19s. pm.

There has been considerable excitement in the market for Turkish Bonds, at a material advance in the quotations. They have marked 53½. Buenos Ayres Six per Cents have been firm at 53; Ecuador Bonds, 3½; Mexican Three per Cents, 22½; Russian Five per Cents, 100; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 89½; Spanish Three per Cents, 38½; Ditto, New, Deferred, 18½; Sardinian Five per Cents, 88½; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 64; Ditto, Four per Cents, 93½; Brazilian Five per Cents, 99½; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 95½; Venezuela Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 23; and Belgian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 93½.

All Joint-stock Bank Shares have continued very firm in price, and rather large transactions have taken place in them:—Australasia, 83½; British North American, 65½; Commercial, 31; English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 18½; London Chartered of Australia, 22½; Ditto, New, 5½; London Joint-Stock, 28½; London and Westminster, 44½; Oriental, 39½; South Australia, 42½; Union of Australia, 73½; Union of London, 23½. Miscellaneous Shares have mostly realised higher rates:—Austrian Agricultural, 33; Canada Six per Cent Bonds, 112½; Crystal Palace, 3½; Ditto, Preference, 4½; East and West India, Docks, 119½; London, 100½; General Screw Steam Shipping Company, 14; Netherlands Land, 1½; Oriental Gas, 1½; Peel River Land and Mineral, 3; Peninsula and Oriental Steam (New), 12½; Royal Mail Steam, 74; South Australian Land, 38½; Van Diemen's Land, 13½. Canal Shares have marked full prices:—Ashton and Oldham, 139; Coventry, 209; Derby, 84; Loughborough, 57½; Rochdale, 60; Stourbridge, 285; Stafford and Worcester, 425. There has been a moderate inquiry for Waterworks Shares:—East London have realised 105; Grand Junction, 68½; Kent, 73½; Southwark and Vauxhall, 89½; West Middlesex, 92; Ditto, New, 184; Ditto, 4½ pm. Gaslight and Coke Companies' Shares have been steady as to price, but the business transacted in them continues limited:—British Provincial, 20; Brighton, 15½; City of London, 90; Imperial, 112; Ditto, New, 20; Surrey Consumers, 11; Westminster Chartered, 41 ex div. Insurance Companies' Securities have been heavy, yet we have no change to notice in the quotations. Bridge Shares have ruled nominal.

The transactions in the Railway Share-market have been rather extensive, and prices, generally, have had an upward tendency. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Aberdeen, 24; Bristol and Exeter, 89; Caledonian, 64½; Chester and Holyhead, 15½; East Anglian, 15½; Eastern Counties, 12½; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 59; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, 20; Great Northern, 93; Great Western, 68½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 81½; London and Brighton, 102½; London and North-Western, 103½; London and South-Western, 85; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 26½; Midland, 75; Newport, Abergavenny, and Hereford, 15½; North British, 31½; 31½; North-Eastern—Berwick, 75½; Ditto, York, 52½; North Staffordshire, 12½; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 29½; Scottish Midland, 69; South Devon, 134; South Eastern, 63½; Vale of Neath, 20½.

SHARES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—Manchester, Buxton, and Matlock, 2½; Midland Bradford, 96; South Staffordshire, 7.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Aberdeen, Seven per Cent, 93; Eastern Counties, Five per Cent, No. 1, premium; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, Four per Cent, 62; Great Northern Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 102; Ditto, Five per Cent, 52; Great Western Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 98; Lancashire and Yorkshire Six per Cent, 137; Midland Consolidated Six per Cent, 137½; North-Eastern—Berwick Four per Cent, 93; Ditto, York H. and S. Purchase, 9½; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 108; South-Eastern, 23; Waterford and Kilkenny Six per Cents, 18.

FOREIGN.—Antwerp and Rotterdam, 8; East India Five per Cent, 24½; Grand Trunk of Canada, A issue, 9½; Great Central of France, 13½; Great Indian Peninsula, 5½; Great Luxembourg Shares, 2½; Great Western of Canada Shares, 21½; Lyons and Geneva, 15; Paris and Lyons, 43½; Royal Danish, 21½; Sambré and Meuse, 8½.

Mining Shares have been very firm:—Imperial Brazilian 2½; Cobbe Copper, 57½; English and Australian Copper Smelting Company, 2; Linars, 7; Pontigbaud Silver Lead, 16; Rhymney Iron, 20½; Ditto, New, 6; Santiago de Cuba, 6½; United Mexican, 6.

THE MARKETS.

CORN-EXCHANGE. May 23.—The supply of English wheat on sale in to-day's market was very moderate. For all kinds, however, owing to the increased imports from abroad, the demand was in a very sluggish state, and, where sales took place, prices gave way from 1s. to 2s. per quarter compared with Monday last. All foreign wheats—the show of which was good—moved off heavily, and, in some instances, the quotations had a downward tendency. Floating cargoes of grain realised former rates. Barley was a slow sale, at barely stationary prices. No change took place in the value of malt. The supply of oats being large, the oat trade was dull, at a decline of fully 6d. per quarter. Beans were in good demand, at the value of peas and four very little change took place.

May 20.—The business transacted in most articles of grain to-day was limited, at Monday's currency.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent red, 70s. to 78s.; ditto, white, 77s. to 87s.; Norfolk and Suffolk red, 70s. to 78s.; ditto, white, 77s. to 87s.; ditto, white, 77s. to 87s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 60s. to 70s.; brown ditto, 62s. to 64s.; Kingston and Ware, 69s. to 70s.; Chevalier, 71s. to 72s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 36s. to 38s.; potato, 27s. to 30s.; Youghal and Cork, black, 24s. to 26s.; ditto, white, 25s. to 28s.; tick beans, 39s. to 41s.; grey peas, 37s. to 40s.; maple, 40s. to 42s.; white, 41s. to 43s.; boliers, 42s. to 47s.; per quarter. Town-made flour, 65s. to 70s.; country marks, 62s. to 69s. per 280lbs.; American, 38s. to 45s. per barrel.

Seeds.—There is only a moderate business doing in this market. Prices, however, are supported. Cakes are held at full quotations.

Linsed, English, sowing, 74s. to 76s.; Baltic, crushing, 73s. to 75s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 62s. to 65s. Hempseed, 48s. to 56s. per quarter. Coriander, 25s. to 27s. per cwt. Brown Mustard-seed, 12s. to 14s.; white ditto, 8s. to 10s. Tares, 9s. to 11s. per bushel. English rapeseed, £33 to £35 per last of ten quarters. Linsed cakes, English, £12 to £12 10s.; ditto, foreign, £11 10s. to £12 10s.; rape cakes, 16 10s. to 16 15s. per ton. Canary, 46s. to 50s. per quarter. Red clover seed, English, 53s. to 65s.; white, 63s. to 73s. per cwt. **Wool.**—The prices of woolen thread in the metropolis are from 10s. to 10½d.; of household ditto, 8½d. to 9½d. per lb. loaf.

Imperial Weekly Averages.—Wheat, 76s. 10d.; barley, 32s. 11d.; oats, 23s. 1d.; rye, 41s. 5d.; beans, 45s. 2d.; peas, 40s. 3d.

The Six Weeks' Averages.—Wheat, 72s. 1d.; barley, 31s. 11d.; oats, 26s. 9d.; rye, 41s. 2d.; beans, 45s. 11d.; peas, 39s. 7d.

English Grain sold last week.—Wheat, 110,379; barley, 17,221; oats, 13,210; rye, 204; beans, 5370; peas, 488 quarters.

Tea.—There is more doing in our market, and prices have an upward tendency. Common sound Congee is worth 8½d. per lb. The deliveries are good.

Sugar.—For all kinds of raw sugar we have to report a firm market, and fine qualities are the turn of day. Floating cargoes of foreign are in request, and held for more money. Refined goods are selling steadily, at from 47s. to 52s. per cwt. The supply is by no means extensive.

Coffee.—The business doing in our market is by no means extensive, yet prices are firmly supported. Good ordinary native Ceylon is worth 47s. to 47½d. per cwt.

Rice.—The demand for all kinds has become very limited, yet we have no change to notice in the quotations.

Provisions.—Irish butter is dull in sale. A few parcels of fine Waterford have changed hands at 88s. to 100s. per cwt. Foreign parcels are dropping, and English have given way 4s. per cwt. In bacon very little is doing, and the rates have given way quite 1s. per cwt. A other kinds of provisions are a dull inquiry.

Tallow.—The demand is very inactive, owing to the increasing stock; and P.T.O. on the spot may be purchased at 50s. 6d. per cwt. Rough fat, 2s. 8d. per 8 lbs.

Oils.—Linsed oil is steady, at 28s. per cwt. on the spot. Most other oils support last week's quotations. Turpentine is tolerably firm, at 31s. to 36s. for spirits; and 8s. 9d. to 9s. per cwt. for rough.

Wool.—The public sales having been brought to a favourable close, holders of wool are firm, but the demand has not improved.

Potatoes.—For the time of year the supplies are large, and the demand is inactive, at prices varying from 90s. to 150s. per ton. The samples come to hand in good saleable condition.

Spirits.—There is a good business doing in rum, at very full prices:—Proof Lowlands, 2s. 9d. to 2s. 10d.; East India, 2s. 2d. per gallon. Brandy is selling on former terms; but malt spirit has declined to 10s. 2d. cash.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, 430s. to 43 10s.; clover ditto, 43 5s. to 46 6s.; and straw, 41 1s. to 42 9s. per load.

Coals.—Telford Moor, 15s. 9d.; Wylam, 15s. 6d.; Gosforth, 17s. 9d.; Hilda, 17s. 3d. Riddell, 17s. 9d.; Eden Main, 20s.; Stewart's, 21s.; Hough Hall, 19s. 6d. per ton.

Hops.—There is a steady business doing in all kinds of hops, and last week's prices are freely supported.

Smithfield.—The beef trade has ruled very inactive, and prices have given way 2d. per 8 lbs. Sheep and lambs have realised former rates; but calves have sold heavily on easier terms. In pigs very little has been doing.

Beef. From 3s. 6d. to 4s. 4d.; mutton, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; lamb, 5s. 6d. to 6s. 10d.; veal, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 2d.; pork, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 4d. per 8 lbs. to sink the scales.

Negative and Leadhall.—The general demand has ruled dull, as follows:—Beef, from 2s. 10d. to 4s. 6d.; mutton, 3s. 2d. to 4s. 8d.; lamb, 5s. 0d. to 6s. 6d.; veal, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.; pork, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 4d. per 8 lbs. by the carcass.

ROBERT HERBERT.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, MAY 25.

WAR-OFFICE, MAY 25TH.

5th Dragoon Guards: C. M. Balders to be Cornet.
2nd Dragoons: Lieut. W. T. Prentiss to be Captain; Cornet J. B. Dunbar to be Lieutenant.
4th Light Dragoons: Lieut. Hon. C. J. Keith to be Captain.
9th Dragoon Guards: Lieut. Hon. C. J. Griffiths to be Lieutenant-Colonel.
16th The First Christian name of Cornet Pigott (appointed Lieut. May, 1850) is Francis, and not James, as previously stated.
1st Grenadier Guards: J. A. S. Nicolson to be Ensign and Lieutenant.
Coldstream Guards: Lieut. and Capt. F. A. Burton to be Captain and Lieutenant-Colonel.
1st Foot: A. B. Tulloch, S. S. Connell, J. W. Fry, to be Ensigns.
3rd Lieut. J. E. Cox to be Lieutenant; H. Parnell, S. H. Heywood, L. E. Lewis, to be Ensigns.
11th: C. W. Browne to be Ensign.
15th: Quartermaster D. C. M. Naughton to be Paymaster; Ensign T. Hoban to be Quartermaster.
16th: Ensign W. R. Tyler to be Lieutenant.
20th: D. Wimberly and J. W. Haynes to be Ensigns.
21st: J. Shaw to be Ensign.
27th: Ensigns G. S. White and C. E. Stewart to be Lieutenants.
29th: Assistant-Surgeon E. Moorhead to be Surgeon.
30th: T. M. Fitzpatrick to be Ensign.
33rd: Lieut. J. Thompson to be Paymaster.
36th: Lieut. and Capt. S. G. May to be Ensigns.
40th: Lieut. J. E. Brodhead to be Captain; Ensign A. Cook to be Lieutenant.

Staff:—Brevet-Lieut.-Col. H. Anderson to be Superintendent of the Depot for Invalids at Chatham, with the substantive rank of Major; Lieut. and Adjutant G. Rand to be promoted to the substantive rank of Staff-Captain of the Depot for Invalids at Chatham, and to have the payment of the Invalids at that place.

HOSPITAL STAFF.—Surgeon R. Dane to be Staff-Surgeon of the First Class; B. P. Macdonough to be Acting Assistant-Surgeon.
TUNISIAN CONTINGENT.—T. Staines to be Chief Paymaster; J. E. Longden, W. Davies, Fitz Thomas Landers, C. G. King, to be Paymasters of Divisions.

BREVET.—Capt. A. H. Kirwan to be Major in the Army; Brevet-Major A. H. Kirwan to be Lieutenant-Colonel in the Army; Captains A. Bagot and C. J. Roberts to be Majors in the Army in the East Indies. Foreign Legion: Baron Von Stutterheim and J. Kunoich to be Colonels on the Staff; J. W. Woodridge to be Colonel in the Army; Lieut.-Col. H. Steinbach to be Lieutenant-Colonel in the Army while serving in the Foreign Legion. Irregular Horse in Turkey: F. Keraly to have the local rank of Major; Drs. Bosi and Bruce to have the local rank of Surgeon.

OFFICE OF ORDINANCE, MAY 25.

Royal Artillery: Lieut. J. Campbell to be Second Captain and Adjutant of the Royal Artillery.

Royal Engineers: Second Capt. E. F. Bonehler to be Captain; Lieut. R. Warren to be Second Captain; Lieut. H. Williams to be second Captain; Brev.-Col. H. Sandham to be Colonel; Capt. H. W. Lurgard to be Lieutenant-Colonel; Second Capt. H. Grant to be Captain; Lieut. Hon. J. J. Bury to be Second Captain; Brev.-Col. F. H. Baddeley to be Colonel; Capt. W. C. Hadden to be Lieutenant-Colonel; Second Capt. J. M. Grant to be Captain; Lieut. R. H. Stothard to be Second Captain.

J. HOSKIN, Blackburn, Lancashire, carrier.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

BANKRUPT.

M. J. POPPLEWELL, Clement's-lane, City, and R. GOFF, New London-street, City, merchants.—J. MARTYR, Union-street, Southwark, ironmonger.—T. AMOH, late of Connaught-terrace, Edgeware-road, auctioneer.—C. HUDSON, High-street, Southwark, baker.—E. HIRSCHBERG, Cheap-side, merchant.—J. BLAKEWAT, Birmingham, and Yardley, Worcestershire, lamp manufacturer.—J. POWER, Wolverhampton, stone mason.—W. COMELY, sen., Tipton, Staffordshire, brickmaker.—C. MASSINGHAM, Birmingham, wholesale jeweller.—J. DENNIS, Torquay, fly proprietor.—T. SLOUGGETT, Devonport, linen-draper.—D. HUGHES, Bala, Merioneth, draper.—T. HEWITT, Ormskirk, Lancashire, grocer.—J. WILLIAMS, St. Asaph, Flintshire, joiner.—W. STAGG, Manchester, manufacturer, clothing chemist.—A. ATCHESON, Cheetham, near Manchester, wine and spirit merchant.—W. JONES, Manchester, glass and oil merchant.—J. and G. BARTON, Manchester, copper roller makers.—J. and B. WILSON, Manchester, tailors.

TUESDAY, MAY 30.

OFFICE OF ORDINANCE, MAY 25.

Royal Artillery: Lieut. J. Campbell to be Second Captain and Adjutant of the Royal Artillery.

Royal Engineers: Second Capt. E. F. Bonehler to be Captain; Lieut. R. Warren to be Second Captain; Lieut. H. Williams to be second Captain; Brev.-Col. H. Sandham to be Colonel; Capt. H. W. Lurgard to be Lieutenant-Colonel; Second Capt. H. Grant to be Captain; Lieut. Hon. J. J. Bury to be Second Captain; Brev.-Col. F. H. Baddeley to be Colonel; Capt. W. C. Hadden to be Lieutenant-Colonel; Second Capt. J. M. Grant to be Captain; Lieut. R. H. Stothard to be Second Captain.

J. HOSKIN, Blackburn, Lancashire, carrier.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

BANKRUPT.

G. S. STREDDER, Lancelot-place, Trevor-square, Knightsbridge, builder.—H. COX, Reading, Berkshire, grocer.—J. DOUGLAS, Somerset-square, Brompton, apothecary.—C. MASSINGHAM, Birmingham, wholesale jeweller.—W. BUTCHER, Lichfield, Stafford



THE "GEYSER" AND "ARCHER" OFF RIGA.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

TWELVE months ago the people of England were eagerly waiting the news of some great naval exploit in the Baltic. About the end of May a rumour prevailed that Sir Charles Napier had bombarded Cronstadt, but, like many other rumours, it proved to be without foundation. This year the movements of the Baltic fleet are not watched with so much interest as they were in 1854—public attention being mainly directed to the Black Sea, so that if any signal victory should be won by Admiral Dundas, it will take the country by surprise.

In the meantime, although no great enterprise has been attempted, the blockade in the various ports in the Baltic has been strictly maintained. On the 7th of May the squadron off Riga commenced proceedings by capturing eight Russian merchant vessels. These ships were receiving their cargoes on board outside of the bar of the Duna, the river that runs up to Riga, probably to enable them to get out to sea quicker than they could have done had they to cross the bar loaded. They appear to have felt secure from any attack; for the shore boats continued to bring goods on board after the English steamers were in dangerous proximity. At last, but just too late, the signal was made on shore, warning them of the peril of their position. Whether it was misunderstood was uncertain; but, instead of putting back into the harbour, the Russian masters stood out to sea, running, as it were, into the very jaws of the lion; for a little manoeuvring effectually cut off their retreat, and the vessels were all taken. They are said to be worth £17,000 or £18,000, which will prove by far the best prizes taken this war, if they are condemned. There is no doubt they were going to try and run the gauntlet. Whether the lawyers will be able to save them or not remains to be proved.

The disposition of the fleet has hitherto been somewhat similar to that of last year, Nargen being the head-quarters, while the screws watch Helsingfors and the mouth of the Gulf. This duty has been performed by the *Esk*, *Cossack*, and *Amphion*—diminished by *Imperieuse* and *Tartar*, sent home for repairs, on account of serious damages in running foul of each other. The *Archer* and *Geyser* have been guarding the Gulf of Riga, assisted by *Basilisk* and *Desperate*; and, including the prizes already mentioned, have sent home, upon reference to the Admiral, some twenty vessels, filled principally with flax, hemp, linseed, oil, and rye, which will give the captors about £30,000. There are a few Russian, and, of course, good prizes. All the others are principally neutral, and clearly took their cargoes in after the announcement of the blockade. The Dantzic mail routine has fairly commenced. The *Driver* has taken the two first turns, and the *Vulture* conveys this mail. The contract steamers have also commenced their weekly visit from Elsinore with bullocks and vegetables, and right good they are. Nothing as yet has gone up the Gulf of Bothnia. The surveying-ships have been busy in surveying the northern shore; and the *Merlin*, accompanied by *Euryalus* and *Magicienne*, was lately engaged examining the neighbourhood of "Borgo," an anchorage between Helsingfors and Cronstadt.

The Admirals are said to keep a dignified and discreet reserve, and nothing is known of the future movements. At the same time a steady and systematic progress is making in rendering the ships ready and efficient, and even if the strongholds are not attempted the ships will not be idle, but will have all their resources constantly employed against the enemy in some shape or another, and the gun boats will be of great assistance in enabling the fleet to reach everything on shore. Last year a constant run of vessels took place between Helsingfors and Abo on the one hand and Cronstadt on the other. Such a state of things will hardly be permitted this year, as the blockade is to be much more strict.

Captain Vansittart, in the *Magicienne*, who has been on a cruise round the Gulf of Finland, having reached as far as Seskar (some twenty-five miles from Cronstadt), reports that all the towns and villages on the coast are entirely manned (nautically speaking) by women and children, all the males having been taken to strengthen the different garrisons. All the male inhabitants of Hogland have been taken away by the Emperor to man the gun-boats; and it is rumoured that the intention of the Admiral is to take possession of the island, and there build an hospital. It is a fine healthy island, and well adapted for that purpose—Faro being too far away, should any casualties, either from sickness or an engagement, take place. There is a large trade going on between Stockholm and the Aland Islands, and it is thought that on the arrival of Admiral Baines some of the small steamers under his command will be sent to the Gulf of Bothnia to impede communication. The islanders of Nargen appear, from the English money they obtained last year, to have thriven well. Additional huts have been raised; increased accommodation provided for washing clothes; the children look better fed and certainly better clothed; and all seem much pleased at the reappearance of their old friends the English.

According to all accounts, the Russians, far from idle during the last six months, have endeavoured to make as secure as possible all points

liable to be attacked. At Riga, for instance, they have sunk huge masses of rock and immense stones in the channel, so as to render the approach to that place very difficult, if not impossible. The entrance to Revel is also defended by a quantity of large iron-spiked piles driven firmly into the ground, and so arranged that no gun-boat whatever, not even one of the smallest, can pass between any two piles without striking.

Another not unimportant fact is, that the Russians have succeeded in removing the greater part of their fleet, which was, during the whole of last summer, shut up in Sveaborg, from that place to Cronstadt; the few ships left behind are completely dismantled. It is supposed that this movement was effected after our fleet left the Baltic last year, and before the communication between Sveaborg and Cronstadt was completely cut off by the ice. There are also some very strong earthworks erected at Sveaborg.

On the 22nd of May the fleet was still at Nargen, near Revel, with the exception of the flying squadron, which was cruising off Hogland, and the *Duke of Wellington*, which left Nargen on the previous Tuesday, on account of having small-pox on board—the number of cases being 24; namely four officers and twenty men. The Commander-in-Chief went in her, leaving Admiral Seymour in command. The vessels exercise daily, gring at targets, only five miles from the enemy's guns. The officers of the different ships go on shore every day on the island of Nargen, to play cricket and walk about; but strict orders have been given by the Commander-in-Chief that no depredation is to be committed on the island, such as setting fire to trees, or molesting the inhabitants, who are mostly Swedes. Communication is kept up with Revel by means of small boats, but they are not allowed to bring anything from there beyond their own common necessities, which consists of some black bread, barley, and rye; therefore the only thing that can be procured on the island is milk. The vessels hired by Messrs. Ranalls and Deacon expect to make a good harvest this year by carrying provisions to the fleet. They have sent invoices to the different ships, but the charges on everything being 150 per cent, they will perhaps be disappointed. It was reported that, on the return of the Commander-in-Chief in the *Duke of Wellington*, the fleet will go to Hogland, or Nyborg, have a look at Cronstadt, and then return by the arrival of the troops to attack Sveaborg. The season is now sufficiently far advanced to commence operations, and not leave things to the last moment. Such a magnificent fleet as we now have in the Baltic should not return to England this year without materially weakening the coast defences of the Russians. The inhabitants of Revel were in great alarm, and the troops in constant fear, expecting the fleet to commence operations against the town. Soldiers in disguise were sent to Nargen to observe the movements of the fleet, therefore they know as well as ourselves all that goes on, and every new arrival. Thirty thousand men are quartered in Revel. The ladies and children have taken to the country, and every house-owner has been compelled to lay in provisions for six months.

A Wismar ship, the *Betsy*, was brought to Elsinore on the 19th ult.; in charge of a prizemaster; she had been captured on her way from Riga to Sheerness, with a cargo of rye. It was understood that she would be followed by ten other vessels that had been taken by our cruisers while sailing under a variety of German flags.

The *Basilisk* arrived off Memel on the 19th ult., bringing with her as a prize the Russian sloop *Emma Helene*, laden with salt, which she had captured off the island of Eesel. In addition to this sloop the *Paul Friedrich*, *Betsy*, and *Johanna*, all from Mecklenburg, are mentioned as having been captured and sent to England. The crew of the *Paul Friedrich*, which was on board the *Emma Helene*, was set on shore at liberty; that of the latter vessel has been transferred to the *Basilisk*.

The garrison in the town of Polangen (the place nearest to the Prussian frontier) is just now very inconsiderable. The Cossacks who hitherto have formed the border guard have been withdrawn; and only 100 men, part Hussars, part Baschkirs, have taken their places. A communication, however, is established between this handful of men and a strong body of infantry and artillery stationed further inland, and maintained by a chain of squadrons of Hussars reaching as far as Libau and beyond it. Libau itself has no garrison at all.

An English vessel was wrecked last autumn on the Russian coast between Libau and Polangen; the crew were saved, but, instead of being made prisoners, were permitted to return home. It has caused no little unpleasant feeling in those parts that not many days back an English vessel of war approached the spot where the wreck lay, and, after firing a few blank shots to warn off interference, sent a boat's crew to set fire to the remaining timbers. They succeeded in perfectly destroying what remained of the hull.

Memel has again been visited by fire. On the 18th ult. a fire broke out close to the post-office, and was not extinguished till after it had destroyed three dwelling-houses and much injured a fourth. In a town so large, a proportion of which still lies in ruins from the late conflagration, this

misfortune is doubly felt, from the difficulty of the now houseless occupants finding shelter anywhere.

The following passage from a letter received from an officer on board one of the vessels blockading Riga gives some particulars regarding the capture of prizes on the 7th and 8th of May:—

H.M.S. "Geyser," off Riga, May 8th.

On the evening of the 7th inst., while in company with the *Archer*, we observed a sail, and on nearing her observed another. We dropped a boat to take the first, and proceeded to the second, on coming up with which we dropped another boat, and went in chase of a third. We took (in all) three on the night of the 7th. The *Archer* boarded one, but she was not detainable. On the morning of the 8th we steamed off the port of Riga and forced six vessels to come out; the remainder, being within gunshot of the batteries, we could not get at. They manned all their guns on shore, and hoisted a red flag as a signal for all vessels to weigh, as they were going to fire.

RUSSIAN SISTERS OF MERCY.—Of the Sisters of Mercy who have left St. Petersburg for the Crimea—96 in all—at least 63 are stationed in and about Sebastopol; of the latter number, at least half are in the town itself, and at the different surgeons' stations. The letters received in the capital from them, and those around them, portray in very lively colours the amount of carnage which the fire of the besiegers causes the Russians. It appears that the wounded are for the most part removed to the north side of the fortress and thence to the interior; but, from the frequent want of means of transport, and, on the other hand, from the inexpediency of moving those severely wounded, their numbers in the town become extremely unmanageable. The great distance from their sources of supply makes it impossible to convey to the troops, much less to the sick, all the necessities they require: the article of which there was the least deficiency was tea, so essential to the comfort of a Russian; but of sugar there was a great lack, so that even the officers were obliged to be allowed. Leeches cost a silver rouble a piece. The descriptions of the scenes these pious females passed through after every more important affair are fearful. That of March 24th is more particularly mentioned, on which occasion 600 wounded were brought in for treatment in twenty-four hours. From the number of amputations and other serious operations, in which they assisted the surgeons, they frequently had to stand on a floor an inch or two deep in blood. The visit paid by two of the ladies, accompanied by a priest, to the Malakoff Tower, and their celebrating Divine service there under the fire of the enemy, partakes of the romantic. After climbing the hill, and entering the fortress, where they found the soldiers and sailors assiduously occupied in returning the incessant fire of the enemy, they reached the tower, now destroyed, where the deceased Korniloff formerly had his quarters. After passing through a casemate occupied by the sailors, they attain a long, deep, dark corridor, with a row of oaken columns on each side. Here mass was celebrated; the chants and other sacred songs were not omitted; all the necessary paraphernalia was at hand, having been brought thither from a church that had been destroyed; and, after a sermon from the Pope, they carried the church vessels in procession round the bastion with tapers in their hands, the enemy firing all the time! They subsequently went out on the ramparts of the fortress and were shown the lunette, Kamshatka, and the two chains of sharpshooters opposed to each other, but yet so near that, as the soldiers there say, they might eat their broth out of the same plate. According to all accounts the bullets of our rifles are doing much more havoc than the balls of our cannon.—*Letter from Berlin, May 26.*

ENTHUSIASM FOR THE WAR IN NEW SOUTH WALES.—The following is an extract of a letter from Sydney, New South Wales, received by a gentleman in London, dated March 6th, 1855:—"The news of the sanguinary affair at Inkerman has excited the most extraordinary degree of enthusiasm and sympathy throughout the colony. A public meeting was held at the theatre to receive subscriptions in aid of the Patriotic Fund. Very large sums were put down, commencing with the contribution of Daniel Cooper for £1000, and £500 a year during the continuance of the war. Several of the banks gave £500 each, and a great number of private individuals subscribed sums varying from £250 to £100. The city was subsequently divided into districts, and collectors appointed to each:—ward being assigned to myself and —. In our perambulations through this very limited area we collected in three days about £3500. I believe that the aggregate of the subscriptions raised in Sydney will be little short of £80,000. This is certainly a gratifying proof of the truly British sympathies by which the people of the colony are influenced, and, I think, affords an unequivocal argument that, whatever temporary causes of discontent may exist between it and the home authorities, its loyalty is unimpeachable."

A CLEVER RUSE.—The manner by which the soundings which have enabled Admiral Lyons and Admiral Bruat to plan the successful attack on Kertch is curious. A British naval officer, whose name is not yet probably known, captured a vessel having on board a private carriage belonging to the Russian Governor of Kertch. With this "material pledge" in his possession, he sent a polite message to the Governor, stating that the English cruiser was unwilling to deprive him of his private property, and would have great pleasure in restoring the carriage to its former owner. The offer was accepted, and the ship's boats entered the Bay of Kertch, with the vehicle on board, sounding as they went. By this means it was ascertained that there was a passage for the small steamers to within a short distance of the coast, and the Governor's carriage made a track for the British fleet.